BLOOD-C

01

DEMONIC MOONLIGHT

ブラッド・シー
いざよいきたん

RYO HADUKI

Concept: Production I.G / CLAMP

Story Consultant: Junichi Fujisaki

BLOOD-C
等乃相受介
持知氐札国底国閑遥介久

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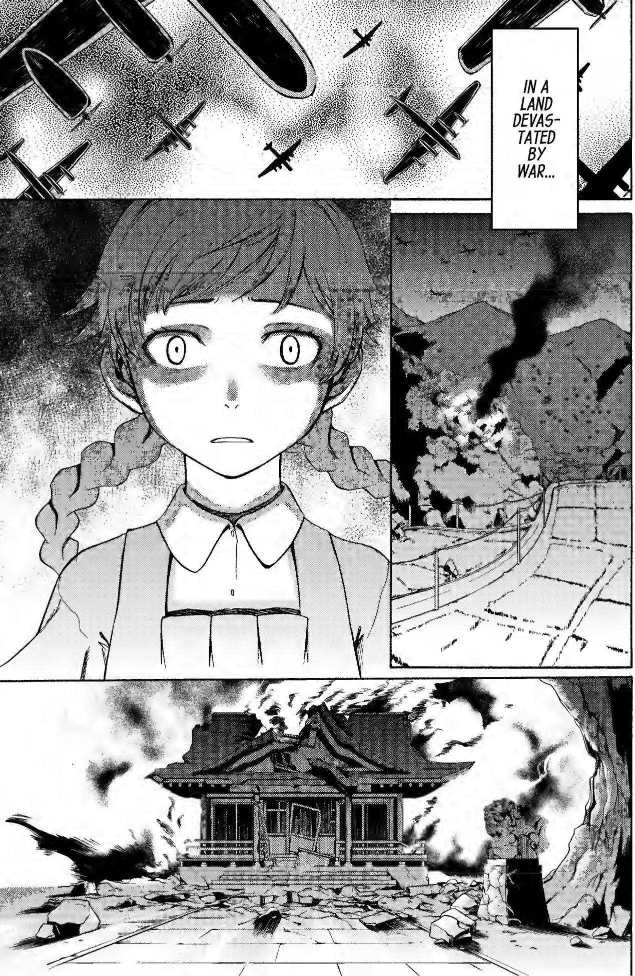
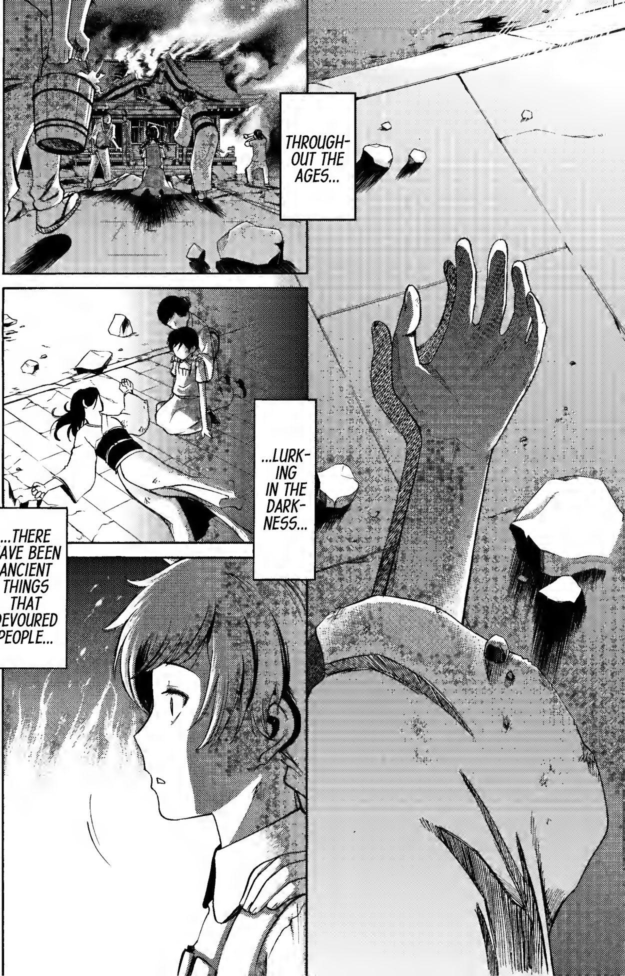
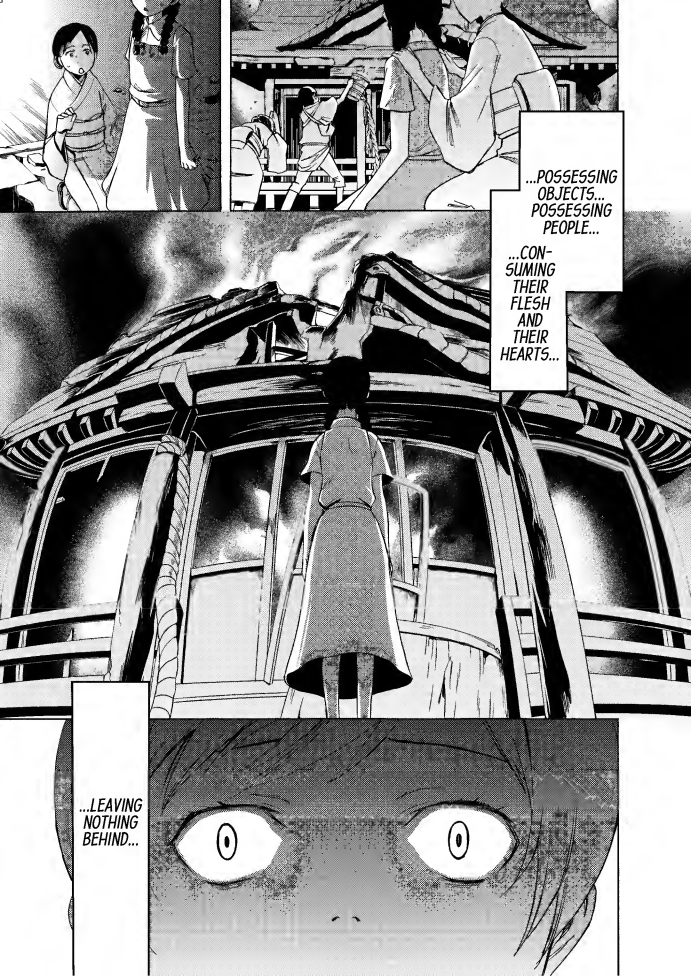
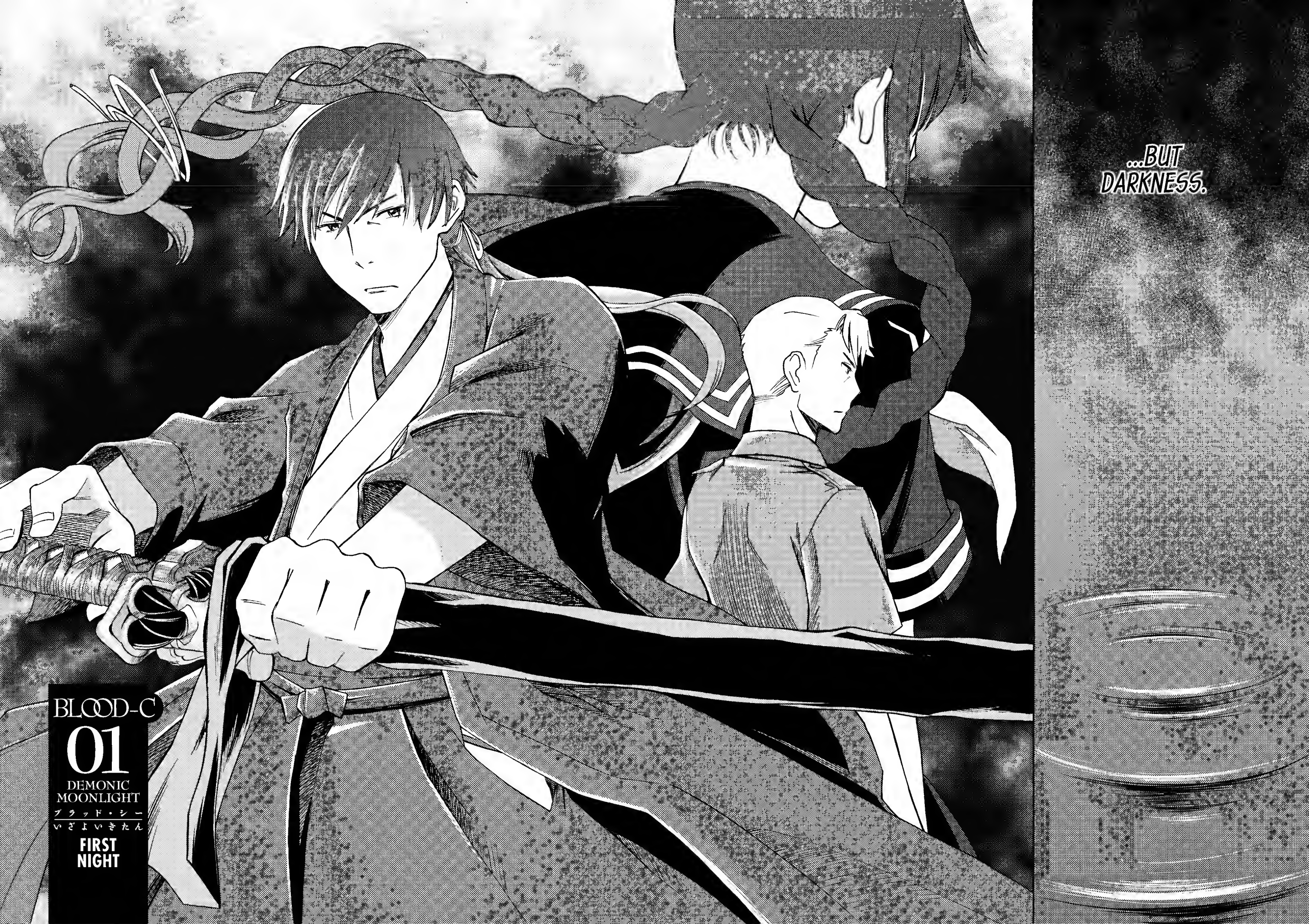

IN A LAND DEVASTATED BY WAR...


THROUGHOUT THE AGES...
...LURKING IN THE DARKNESS...
...THERE HAVE BEEN ANCIENT THINGS THAT DEVOURED PEOPLE...


...POSSESSING OBJECTS... POSSESSING PEOPLE...
...CONSUMING THEIR FLESH AND THEIR HEARTS...
...LEAVING NOTHING BEHIND...



...BUT DARKNESS.

BLOOD-C
01
DEMONIC MOONLIGHT
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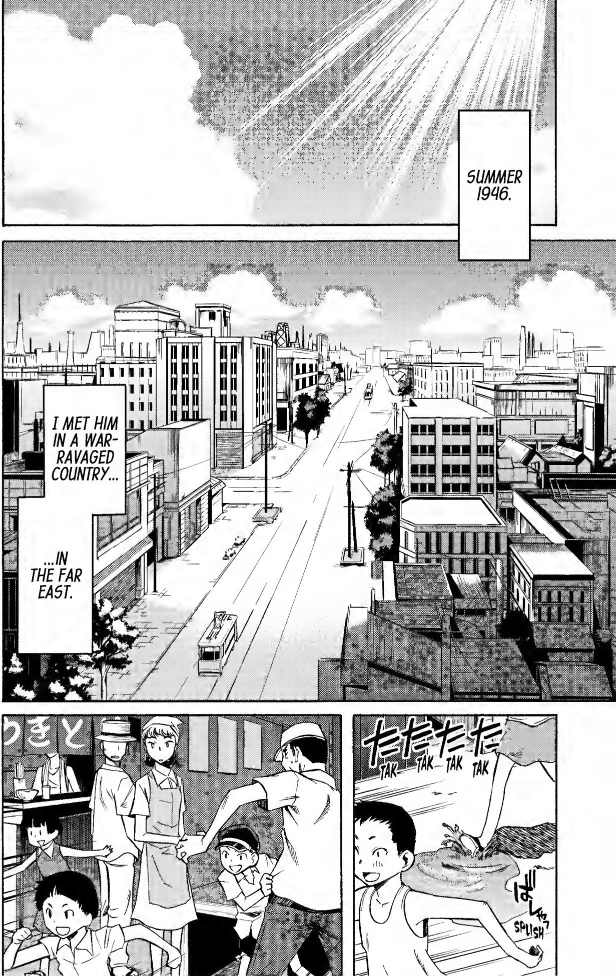
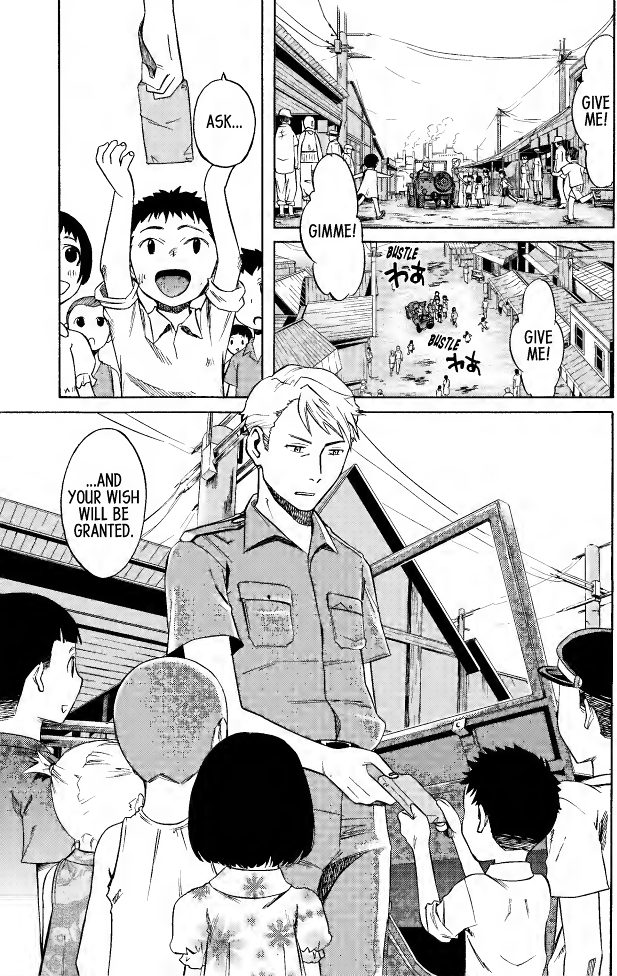
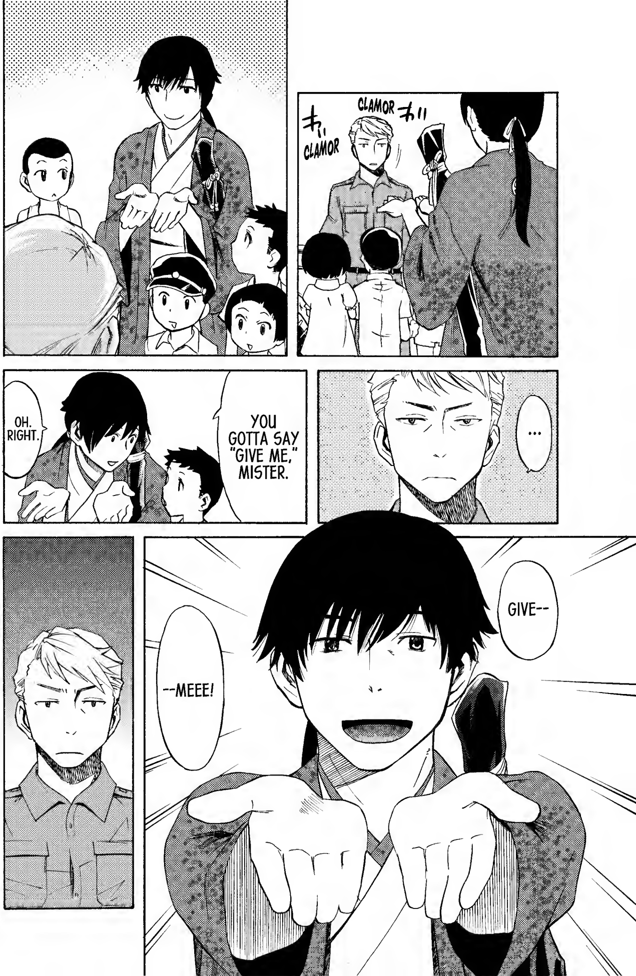
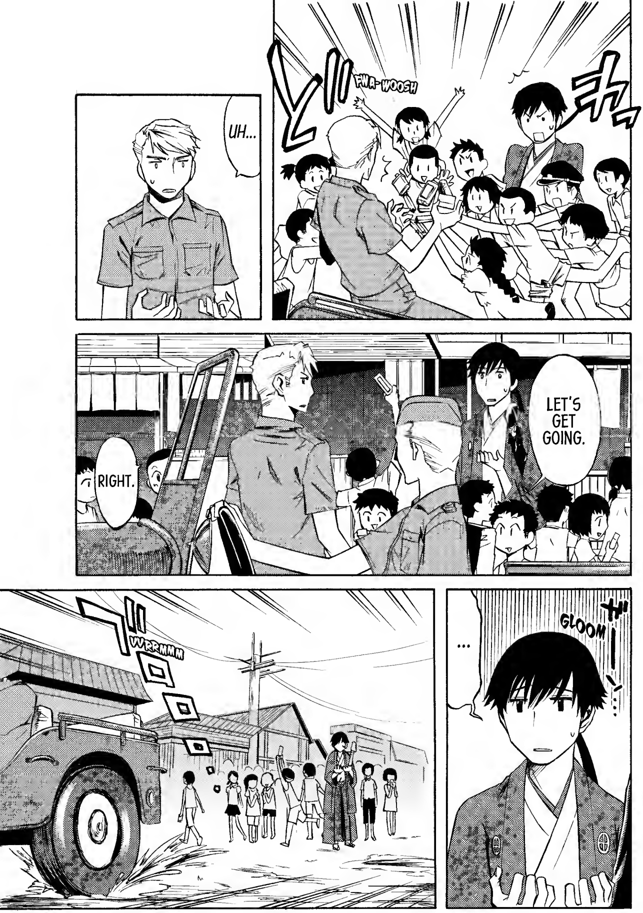
いざよいきたん

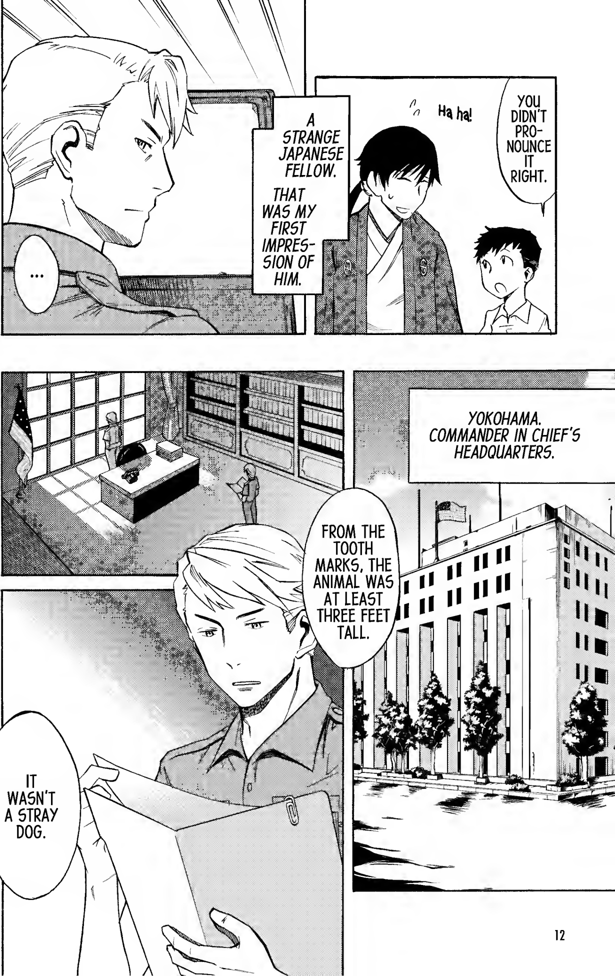
FIRST NIGHT

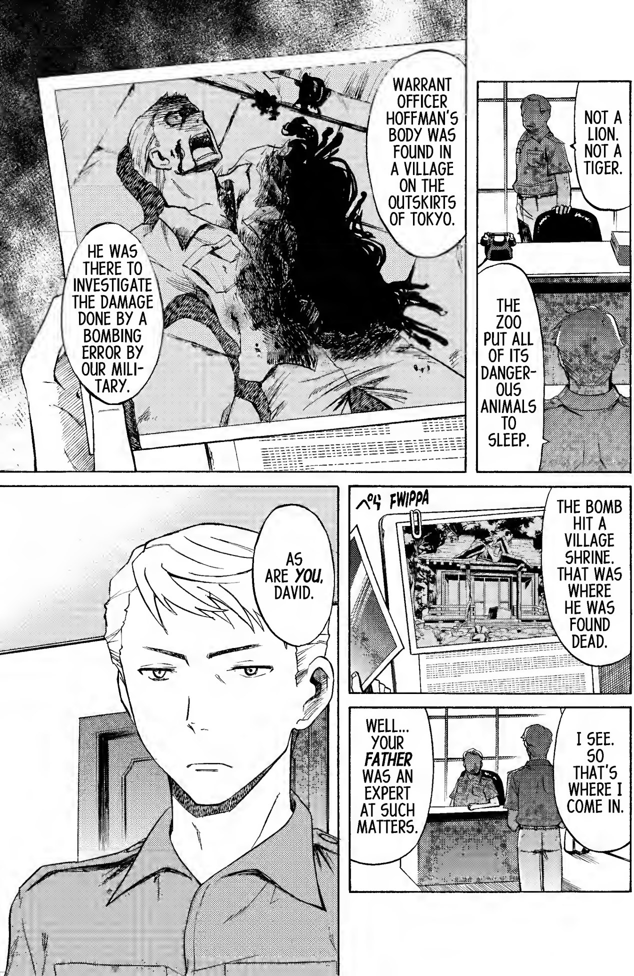

SUMMER 1946.
I MET HIM IN A WAR-RAVAGED COUNTRY...
...IN THE FAR EAST.
たたたた
TAK TAK TAK TAK
ばしゃっ
SPLISH
つきと

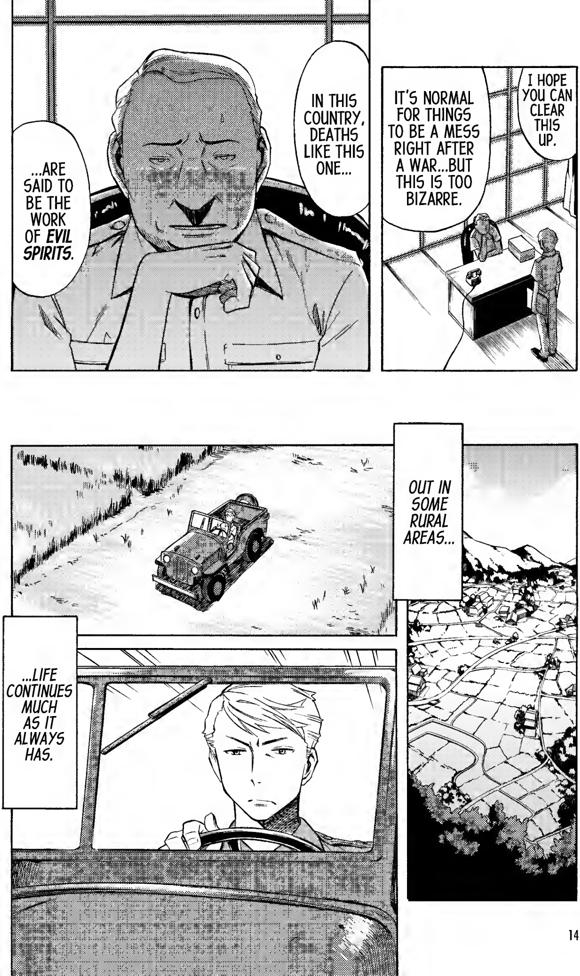

GIVE ME!
GIMME!
BUSTLE わあ
GIVE ME!
BUSTLE わあ
ASK...
...AND YOUR WISH WILL BE GRANTED.

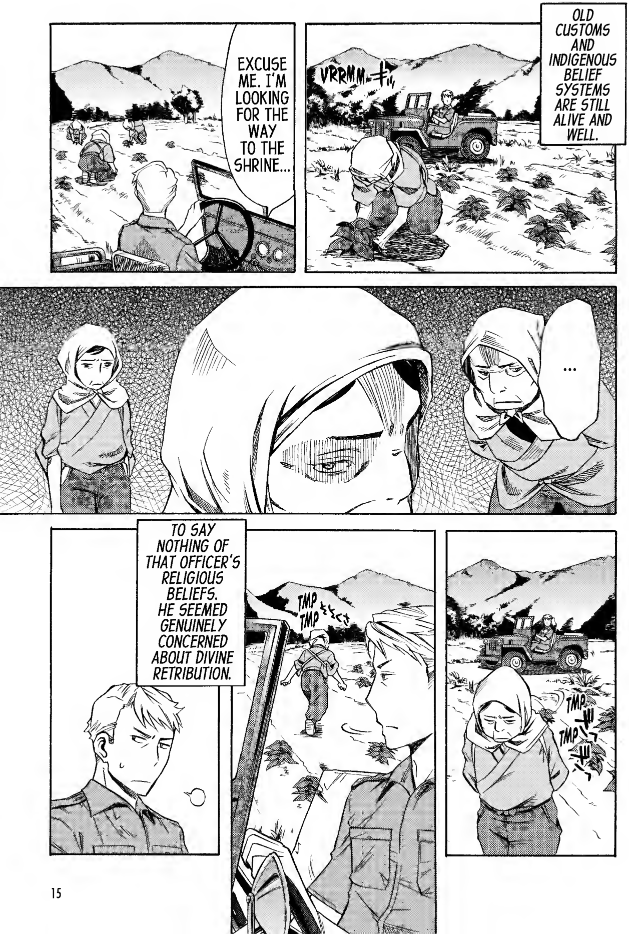

CLAMOR わい
わい CLAMOR
...
YOU GOTTA SAY "GIVE ME," MISTER.
OH. RIGHT.
GIVE--
--MEEE!

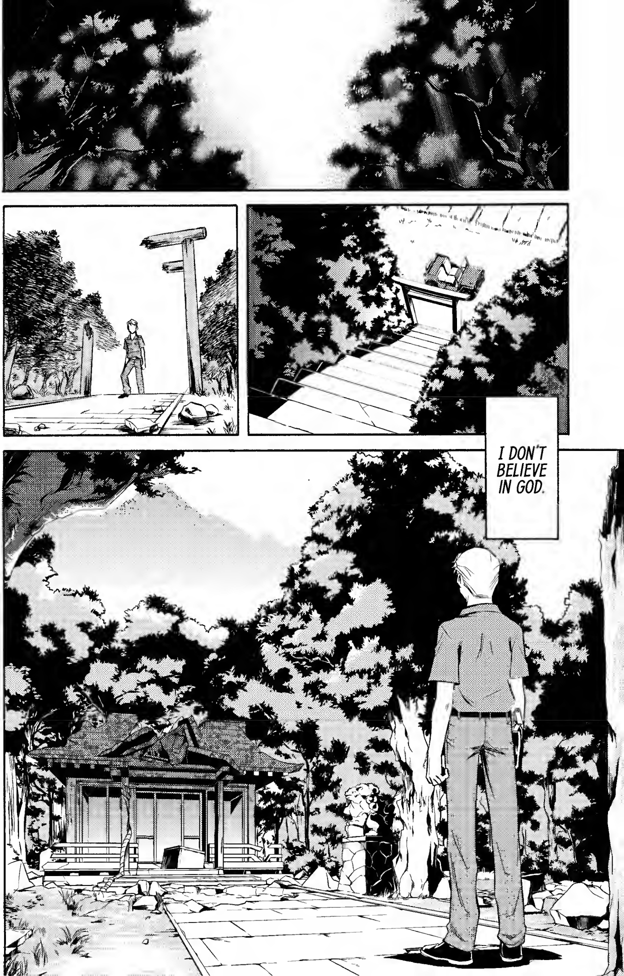

FWA-WOOSH
UH...
LET'S GET GOING.
RIGHT.
...
GLOOM
VVRRMMM

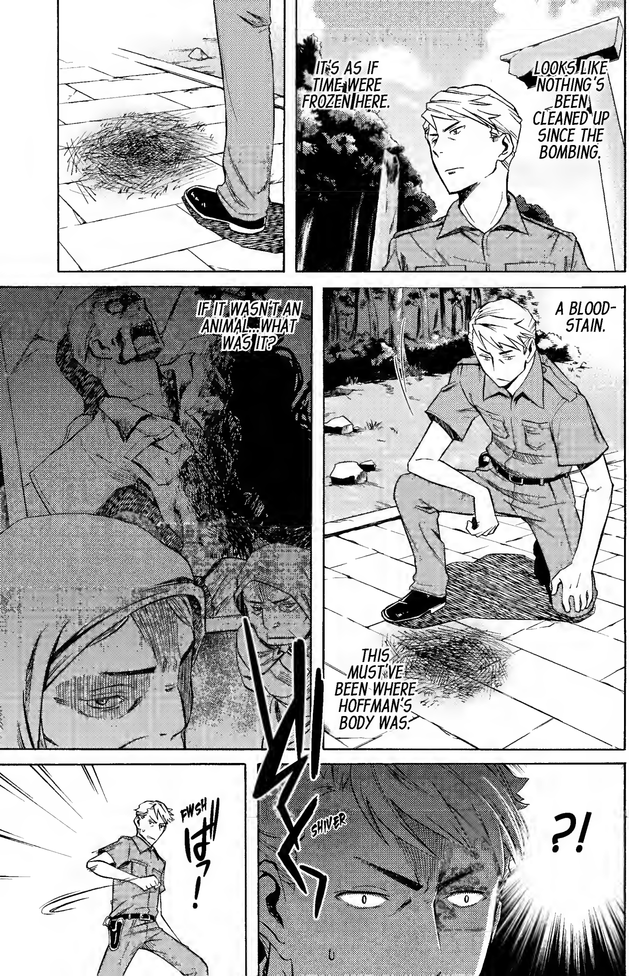

YOU DIDN'T PRONOUNCE IT RIGHT.
Ha ha!
A STRANGE JAPANESE FELLOW.
THAT WAS MY FIRST IMPRESSION OF HIM.
...
YOKOHAMA. COMMANDER IN CHIEF'S HEADQUARTERS.
FROM THE TOOTH MARKS, THE ANIMAL WAS AT LEAST THREE FEET TALL.
IT WASN'T A STRAY DOG.

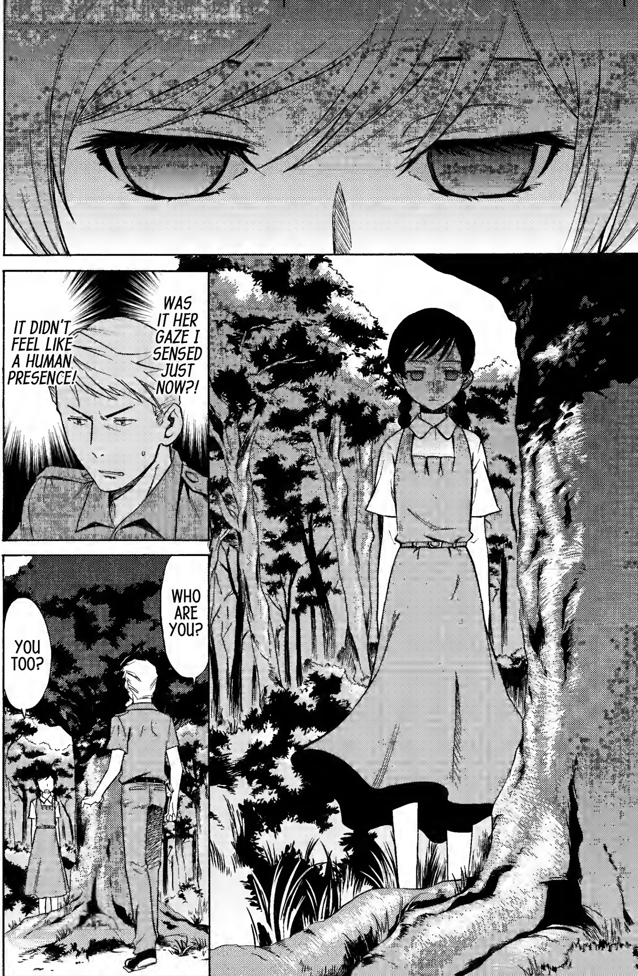

NOT A LION. NOT A TIGER.
THE ZOO PUT ALL OF ITS DANGEROUS ANIMALS TO SLEEP.
WARRANT OFFICER HOFFMAN'S BODY WAS FOUND IN A VILLAGE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOKYO.
HE WAS THERE TO INVESTIGATE THE DAMAGE DONE BY A BOMBING ERROR BY OUR MILITARY.
FWIPPA
THE BOMB HIT A VILLAGE SHRINE. THAT WAS WHERE HE WAS FOUND DEAD.
I SEE. SO THAT'S WHERE I COME IN.
WELL... YOUR *FATHER* WAS AN EXPERT AT SUCH MATTERS.
AS ARE *YOU*, DAVID.

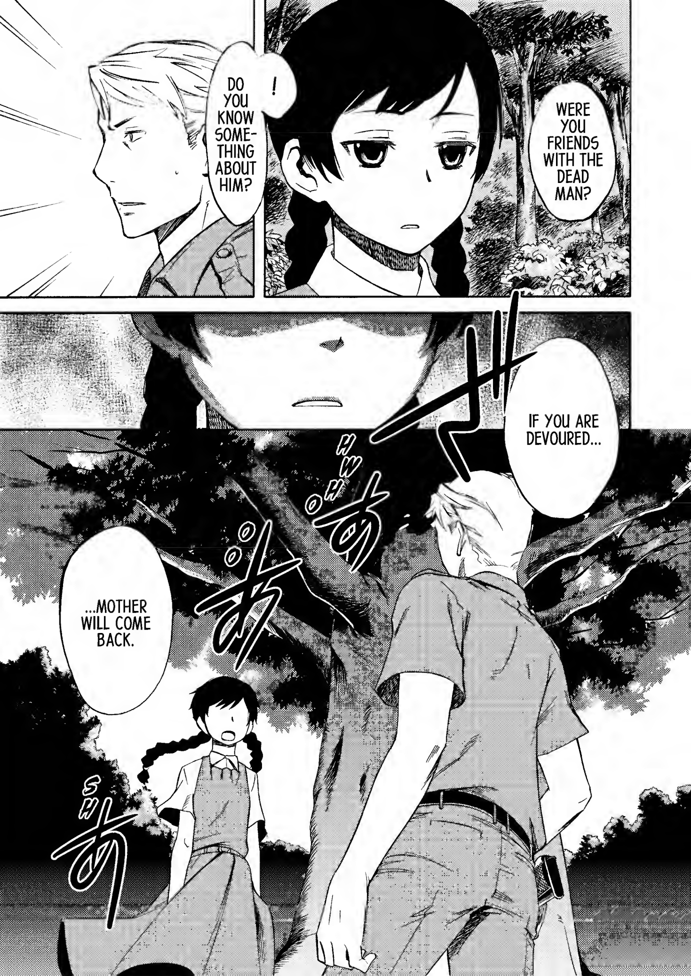

IT'S NORMAL FOR THINGS TO BE A MESS RIGHT AFTER A WAR...BUT THIS IS TOO BIZARRE.
I HOPE YOU CAN CLEAR THIS UP.
IN THIS COUNTRY, DEATHS LIKE THIS ONE...
...ARE SAID TO BE THE WORK OF ***EVIL SPIRITS***.
OUT IN SOME RURAL AREAS...
...LIFE CONTINUES MUCH AS IT ALWAYS HAS.

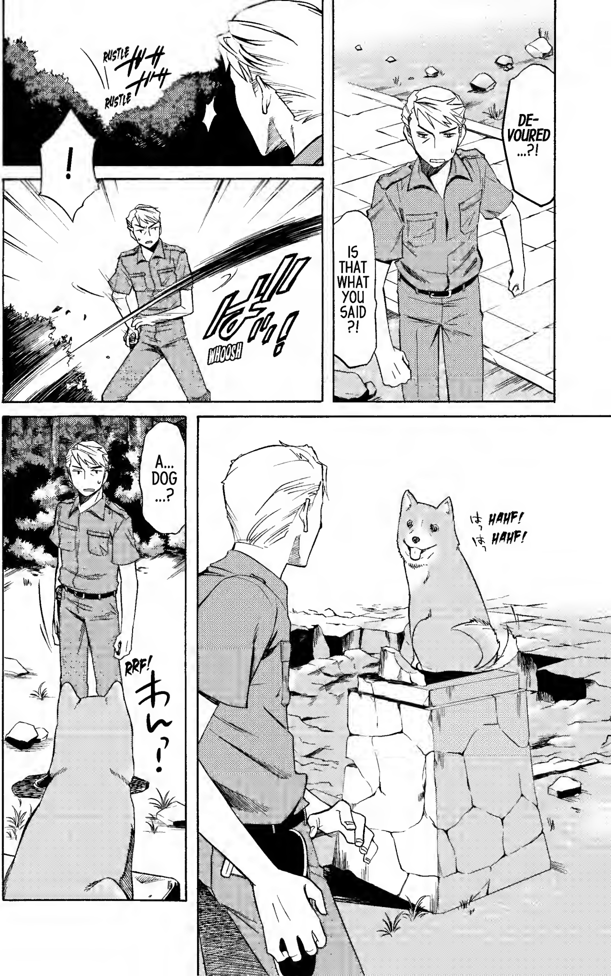

OLD CUSTOMS AND INDIGENOUS BELIEF SYSTEMS ARE STILL ALIVE AND WELL.
VRRMM キュ
EXCUSE ME. I'M LOOKING FOR THE WAY TO THE SHRINE...
...
TMP TMP
TMP TMP とくさ
TO SAY NOTHING OF THAT OFFICER'S RELIGIOUS BELIEFS. HE SEEMED GENUINELY CONCERNED ABOUT DIVINE RETRIBUTION.

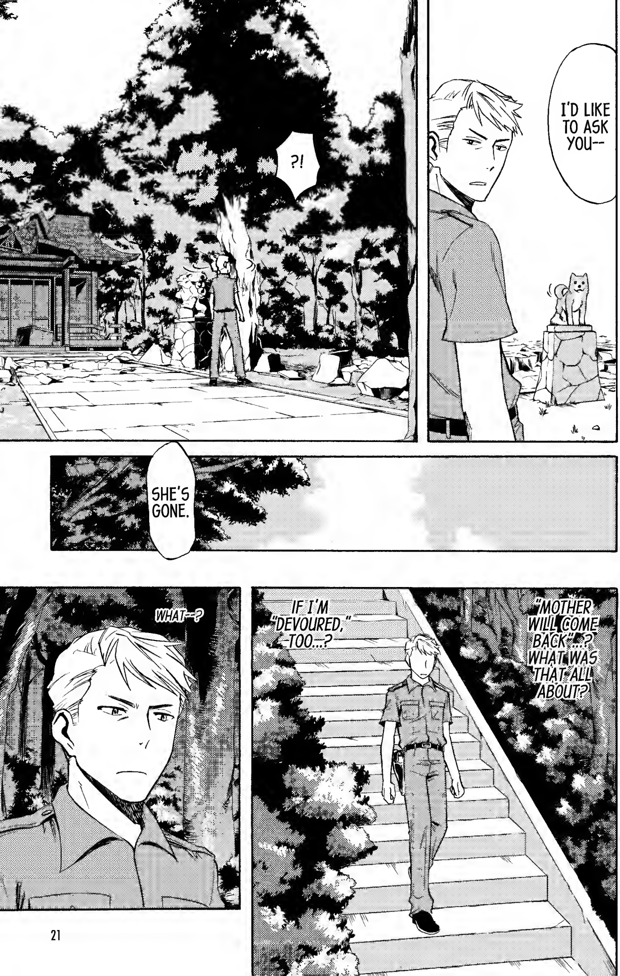

I DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD.

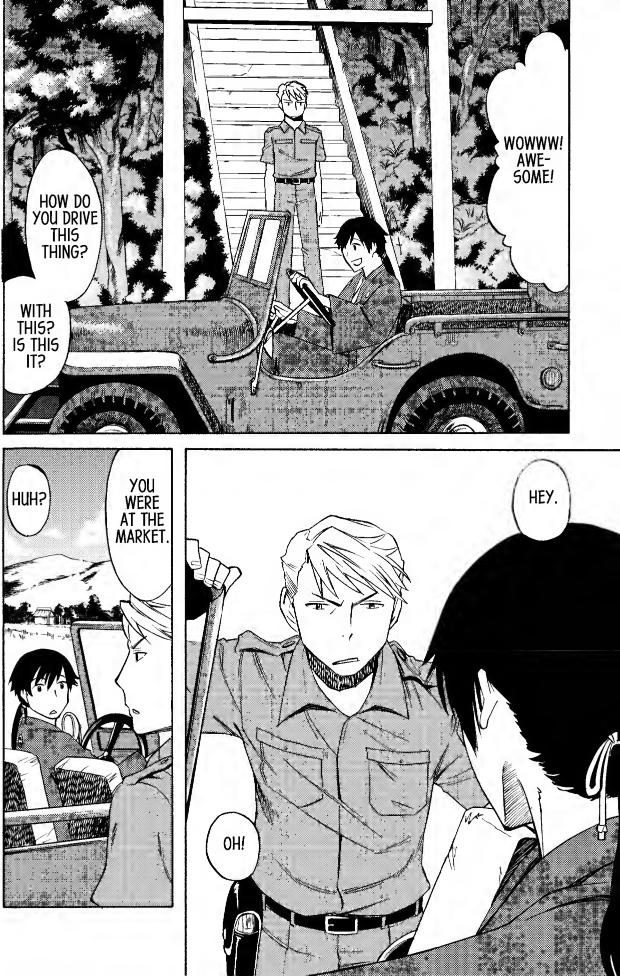

LOOKS LIKE NOTHING'S BEEN CLEANED UP SINCE THE BOMBING.
IT'S AS IF TIME WERE FROZEN HERE.
A BLOOD-STAIN.
THIS MUST'VE BEEN WHERE HOFFMAN'S BODY WAS.
IF IT WASN'T AN ANIMAL... WHAT WAS IT?
?!
ぞくっ
SHIVER
ばっ!
FWSH

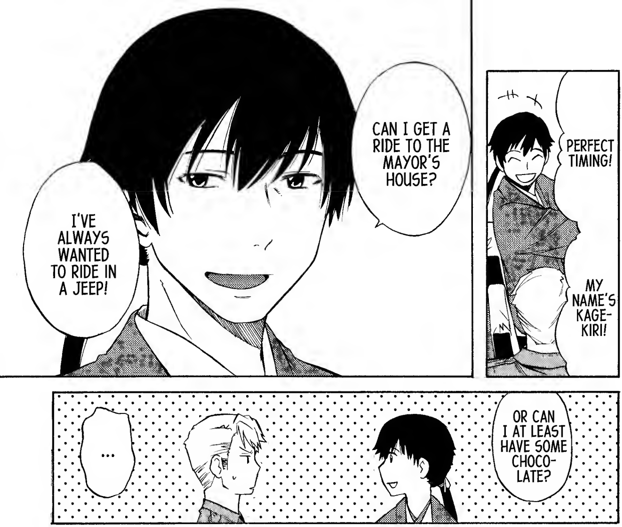

WAS IT HER GAZE I SENSED JUST NOW?!
IT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE A HUMAN PRESENCE!
WHO ARE YOU?
YOU TOO?

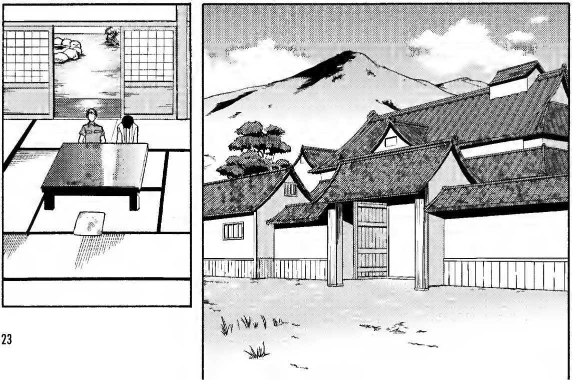

WERE YOU FRIENDS WITH THE DEAD MAN?
!
DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT HIM?
ザ
IF YOU ARE DEVOURED...
HWOOH
あ
ぉあ
...MOTHER WILL COME BACK.
SH
あ

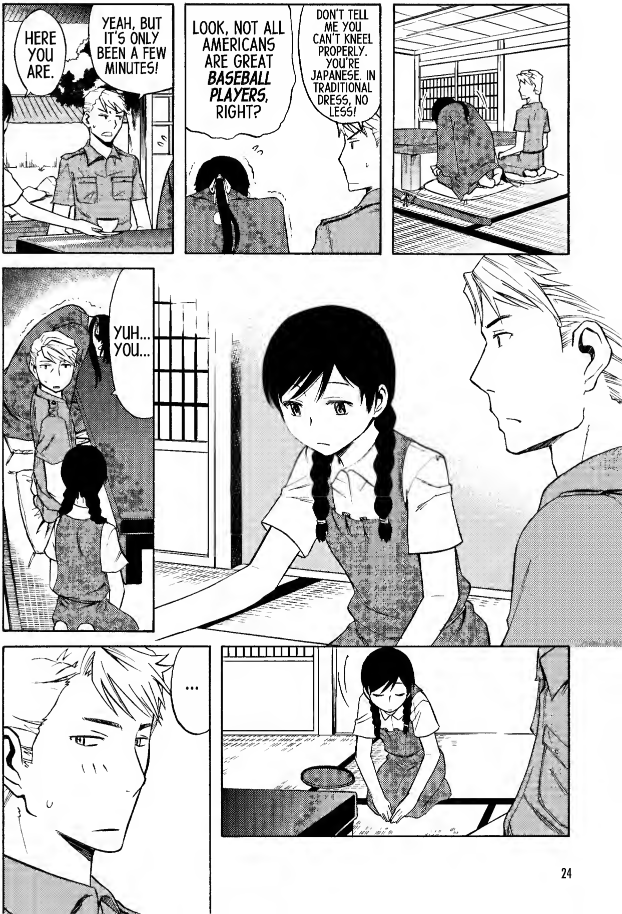

DE-VOURED ...?!
IS THAT WHAT YOU SAID ?!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
!
WHOOSH
はっ HAHF!
はっ HAHF!
A... DOG ...?
RRF!
わんっ!

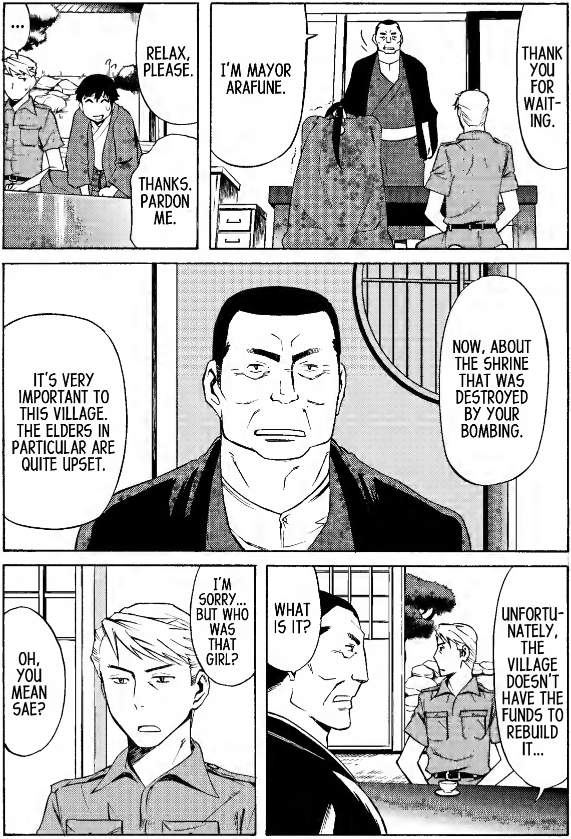

I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU--
?!
SHE'S GONE.
"MOTHER WILL COME BACK"...? WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT?
IF I'M "DEVOURED," TOO...?
WHAT--?

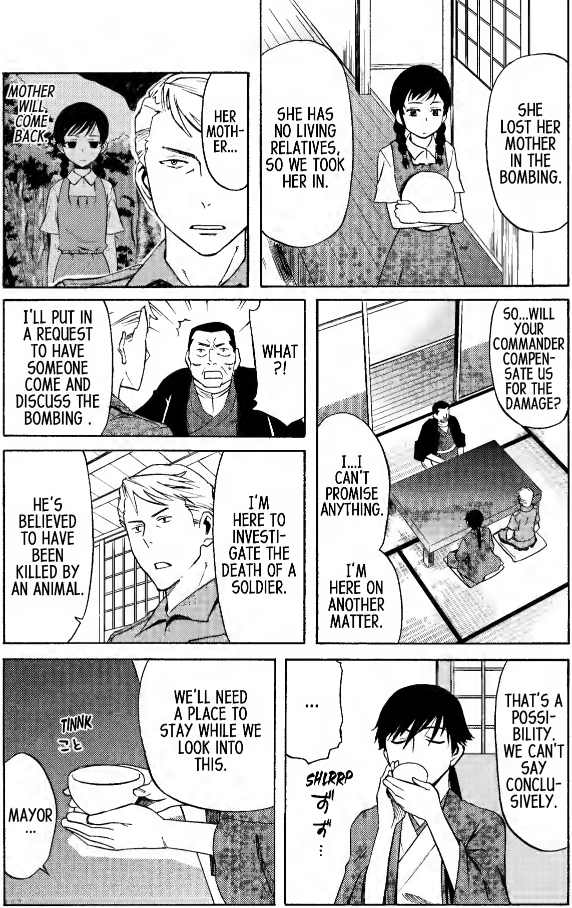

WOWWW! AWESOME!
HOW DO YOU DRIVE THIS THING?
WITH THIS? IS THIS IT?
HEY.
OH!
YOU WERE AT THE MARKET.
HUH?

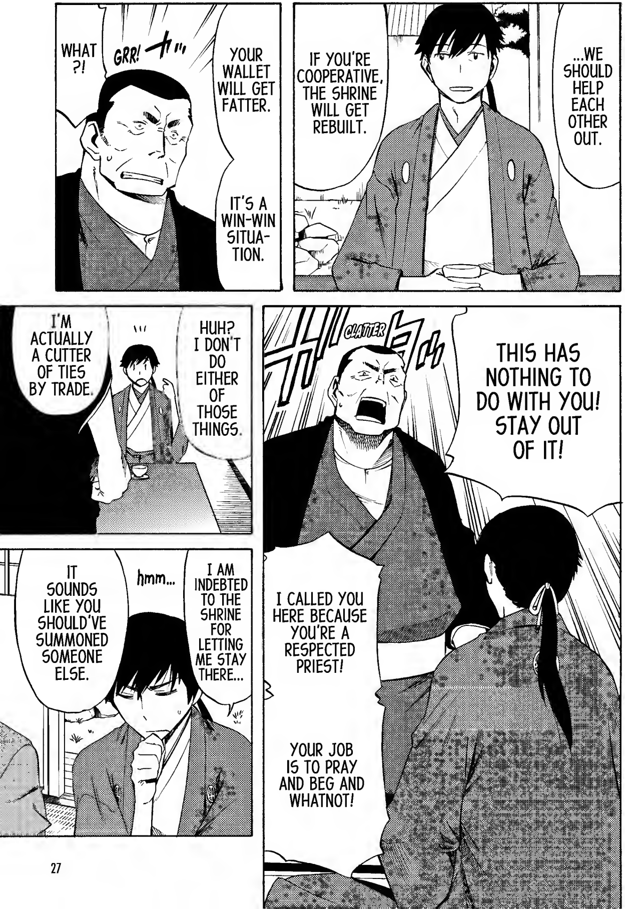

PERFECT TIMING!
MY NAME'S KAGE-KIRI!
CAN I GET A RIDE TO THE MAYOR'S HOUSE?
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO RIDE IN A JEEP!
OR CAN I AT LEAST HAVE SOME CHOCOLATE?
...

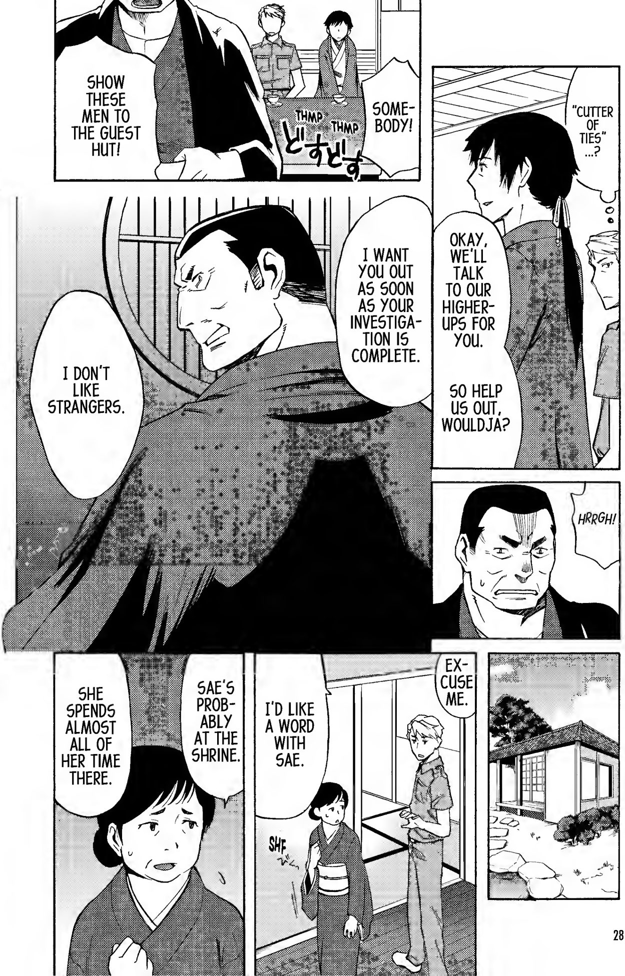


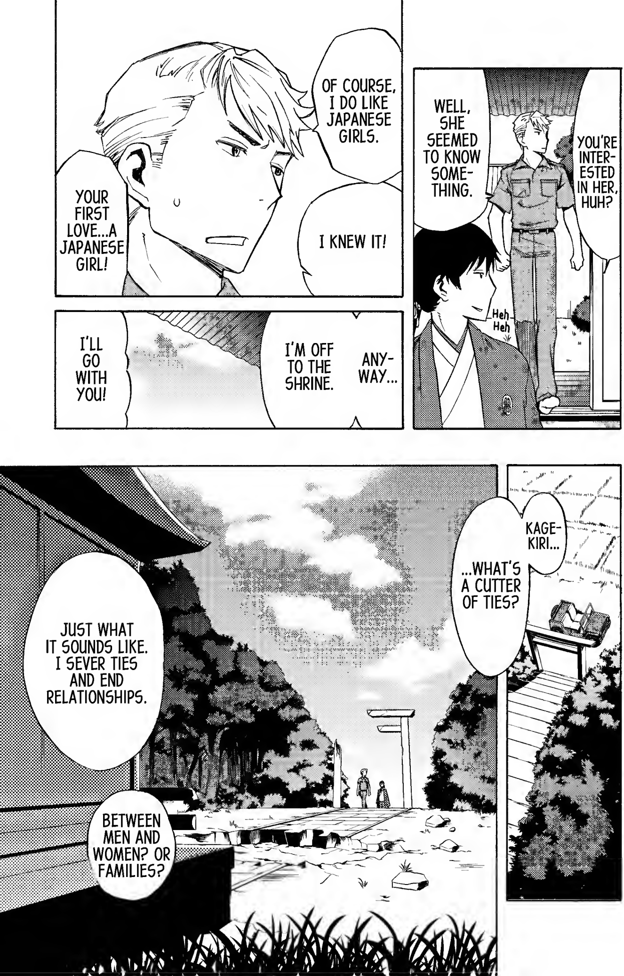

DON'T TELL ME YOU CAN'T KNEEL PROPERLY. YOU'RE JAPANESE. IN TRADITIONAL DRESS, NO LESS!
LOOK, NOT ALL AMERICANS ARE GREAT **BASEBALL PLAYERS**, RIGHT?
YEAH, BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN A FEW MINUTES!
HERE YOU ARE.
YUH... YOU...
...

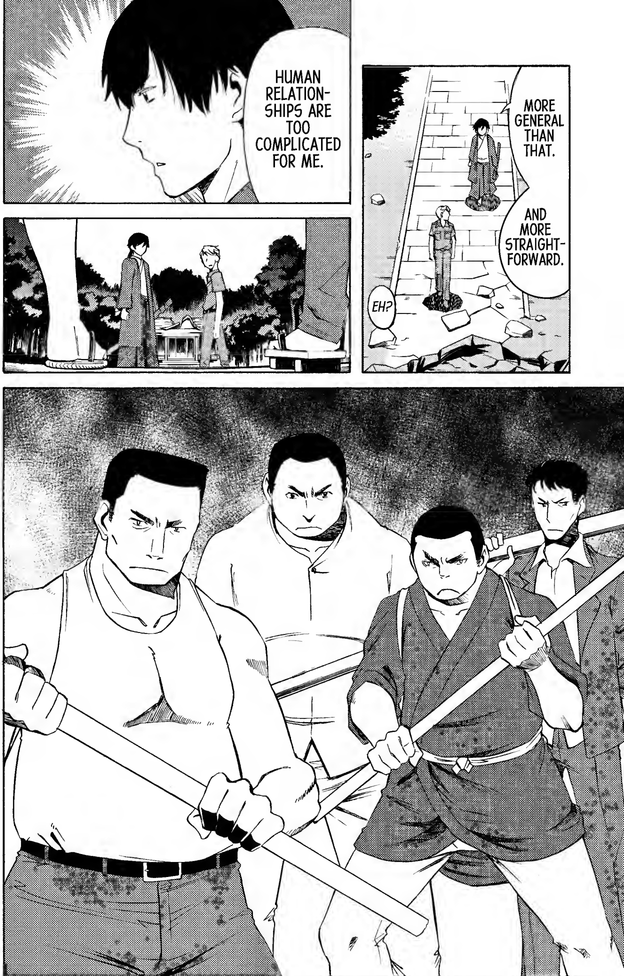

THANK YOU FOR WAITING.
I'M MAYOR ARAFUNE.
RELAX, PLEASE.
THANKS. PARDON ME.
...
NOW, ABOUT THE SHRINE THAT WAS DESTROYED BY YOUR BOMBING.
IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO THIS VILLAGE. THE ELDERS IN PARTICULAR ARE QUITE UPSET.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE VILLAGE DOESN'T HAVE THE FUNDS TO REBUILD IT...
WHAT IS IT?
I'M SORRY... BUT WHO WAS THAT GIRL?
OH, YOU MEAN SAE?

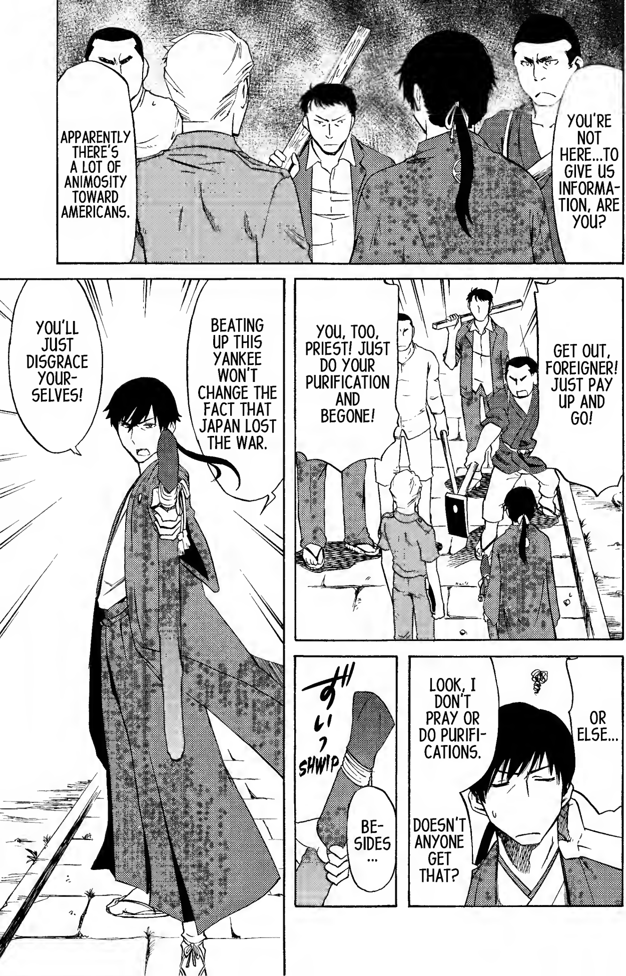

SHE LOST HER MOTHER IN THE BOMBING.
SHE HAS NO LIVING RELATIVES, SO WE TOOK HER IN.
HER MOTHER...
MOTHER WILL COME BACK.
SO...WILL YOUR COMMANDER COMPENSATE US FOR THE DAMAGE?
I...I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING.
I'M HERE ON ANOTHER MATTER.
WHAT?!
I'LL PUT IN A REQUEST TO HAVE SOMEONE COME AND DISCUSS THE BOMBING .
I'M HERE TO INVESTIGATE THE DEATH OF A SOLDIER.
HE'S BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY AN ANIMAL.
THAT'S A POSSIBILITY. WE CAN'T SAY CONCLUSIVELY.
...
SHLRRP
ずず…
WE'LL NEED A PLACE TO STAY WHILE WE LOOK INTO THIS.
TINNK
こと
MAYOR...

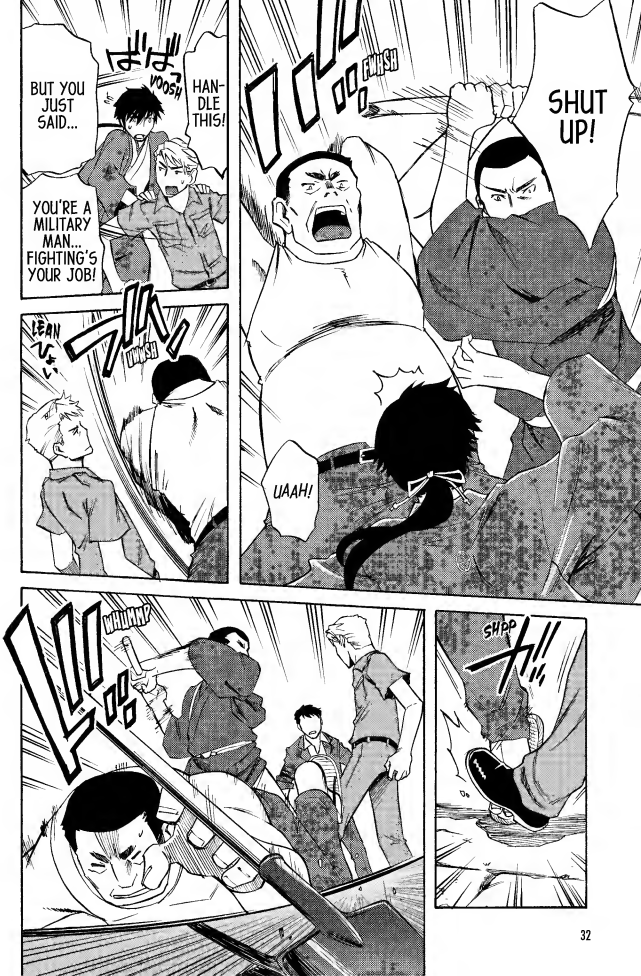

...WE SHOULD HELP EACH OTHER OUT.
IF YOU'RE COOPERATIVE, THE SHRINE WILL GET REBUILT.
YOUR WALLET WILL GET FATTER.
IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION.
GRR!
WHAT?!
CLATTER
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU! STAY OUT OF IT!
I CALLED YOU HERE BECAUSE YOU'RE A RESPECTED PRIEST!
YOUR JOB IS TO PRAY AND BEG AND WHATNOT!
HUH? I DON'T DO EITHER OF THOSE THINGS.
I'M ACTUALLY A CUTTER OF TIES BY TRADE.
I AM INDEBTED TO THE SHRINE FOR LETTING ME STAY THERE...
hmm...
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU SHOULD'VE SUMMONED SOMEONE ELSE.

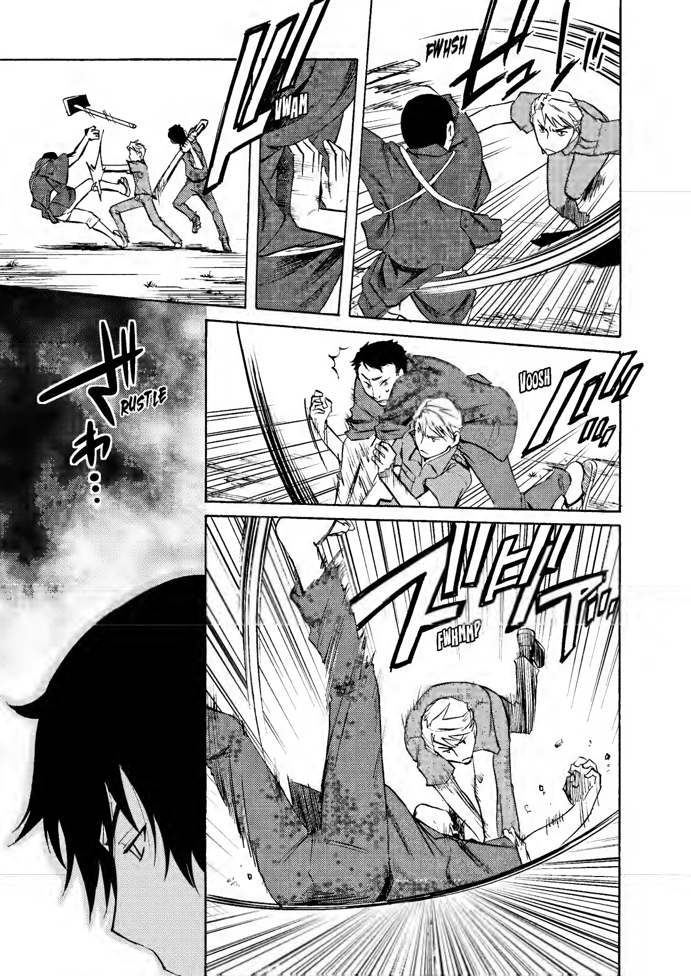

SOME-BODY!
THMP THMP
どすどす
SHOW THESE MEN TO THE GUEST HUT!
I WANT YOU OUT AS SOON AS YOUR INVESTIGATION IS COMPLETE.
I DON'T LIKE STRANGERS.
"CUTTER OF TIES" ...?
OKAY, WE'LL TALK TO OUR HIGHER-UPS FOR YOU.
SO HELP US OUT, WOULDJA?
HRRGH!
EX-CUSE ME.
I'D LIKE A WORD WITH SAE.
SHF
SAE'S PROBABLY AT THE SHRINE.
SHE SPENDS ALMOST ALL OF HER TIME THERE.

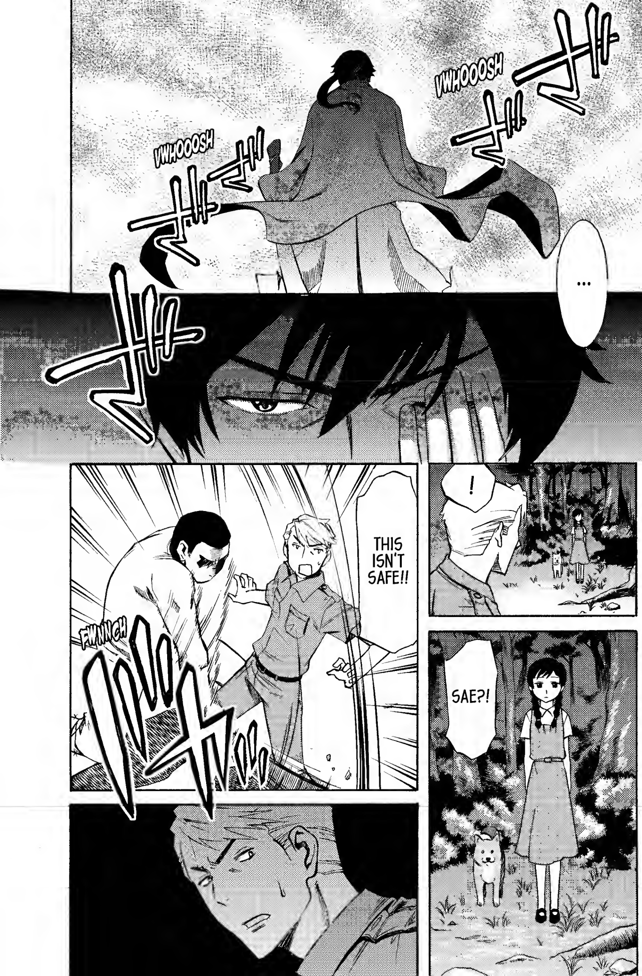

YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HER, HUH?
WELL, SHE SEEMED TO KNOW SOMETHING.
Heh Heh
OF COURSE, I DO LIKE JAPANESE GIRLS.
I KNEW IT!
YOUR FIRST LOVE...A JAPANESE GIRL!
ANYWAY...
I'M OFF TO THE SHRINE.
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
KAGEKIRI...
...WHAT'S A CUTTER OF TIES?
JUST WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE. I SEVER TIES AND END RELATIONSHIPS.
BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN? OR FAMILIES?

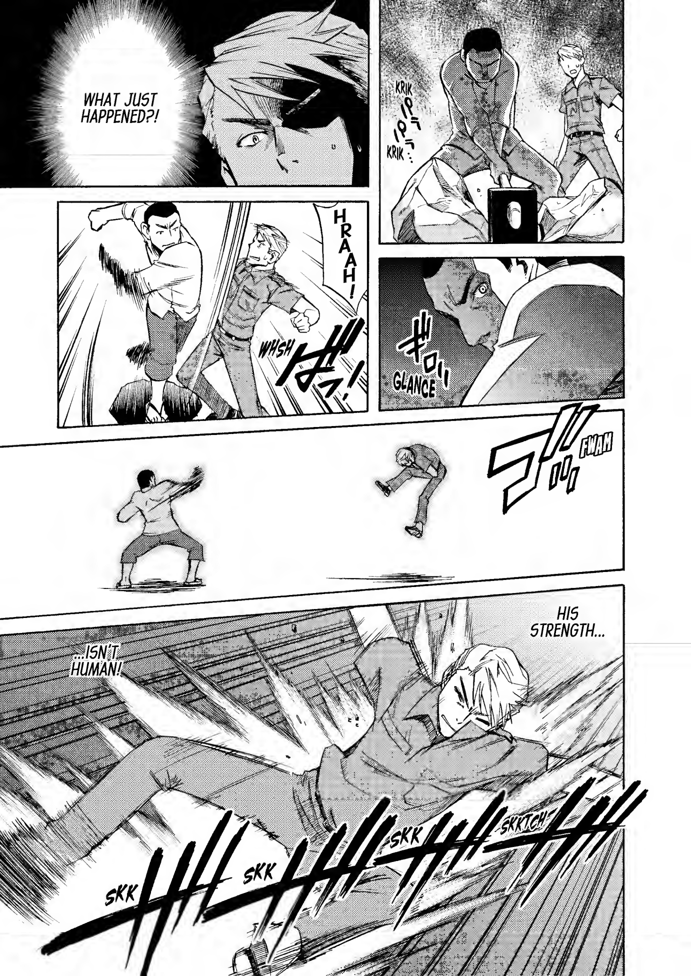

HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS ARE TOO COMPLICATED FOR ME.
MORE GENERAL THAN THAT.
AND MORE STRAIGHTFORWARD.
EH?

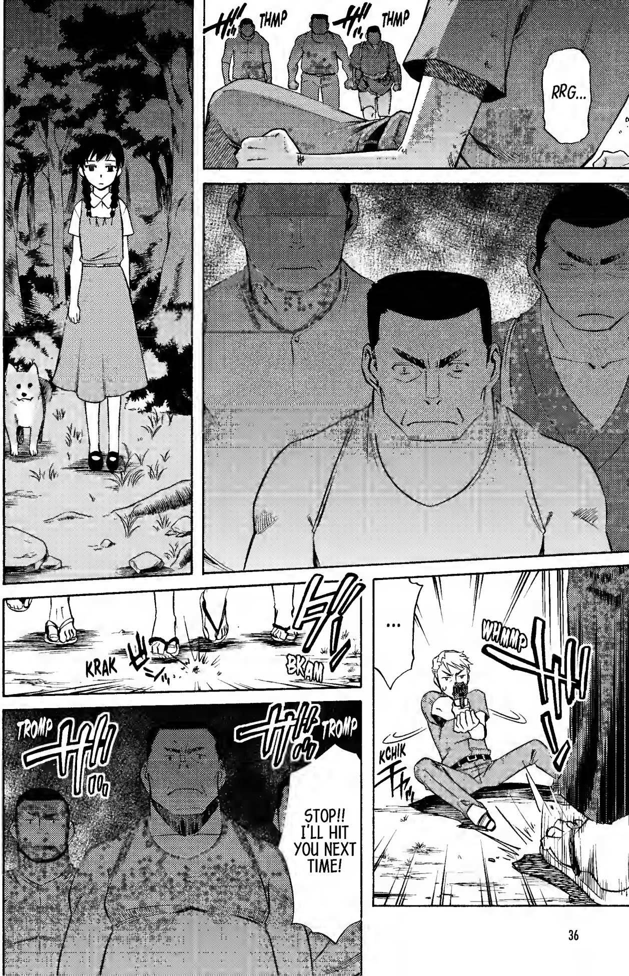

YOU'RE NOT HERE...TO GIVE US INFORMATION, ARE YOU?
APPARENTLY THERE'S A LOT OF ANIMOSITY TOWARD AMERICANS.
GET OUT, FOREIGNER! JUST PAY UP AND GO!
YOU, TOO, PRIEST! JUST DO YOUR PURIFICATION AND BEGONE!
OR ELSE...
LOOK, I DON'T PRAY OR DO PURIFICATIONS.
DOESN'T ANYONE GET THAT?
ずいっ
SHWIP
BESIDES...
BEATING UP THIS YANKEE WON'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT JAPAN LOST THE WAR.
YOU'LL JUST DISGRACE YOURSELVES!

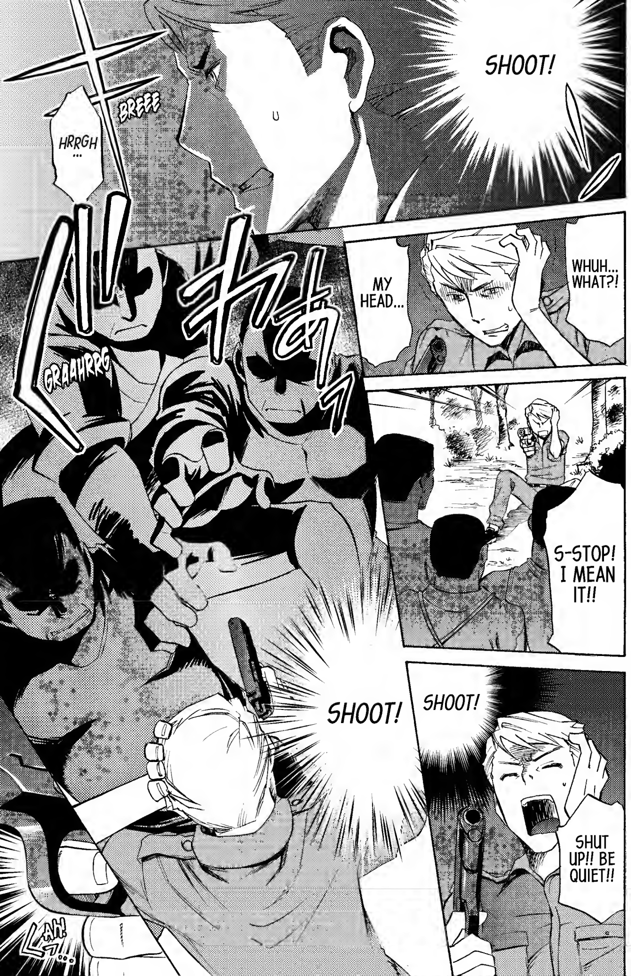

SHUT UP!
FWHSH
HANDLE THIS!
ばばっ
VOOSH
BUT YOU JUST SAID...
YOU'RE A MILITARY MAN... FIGHTING'S YOUR JOB!
UAAH!
ひょい
LEAN
UWWSH
SHPP
WHUMMP

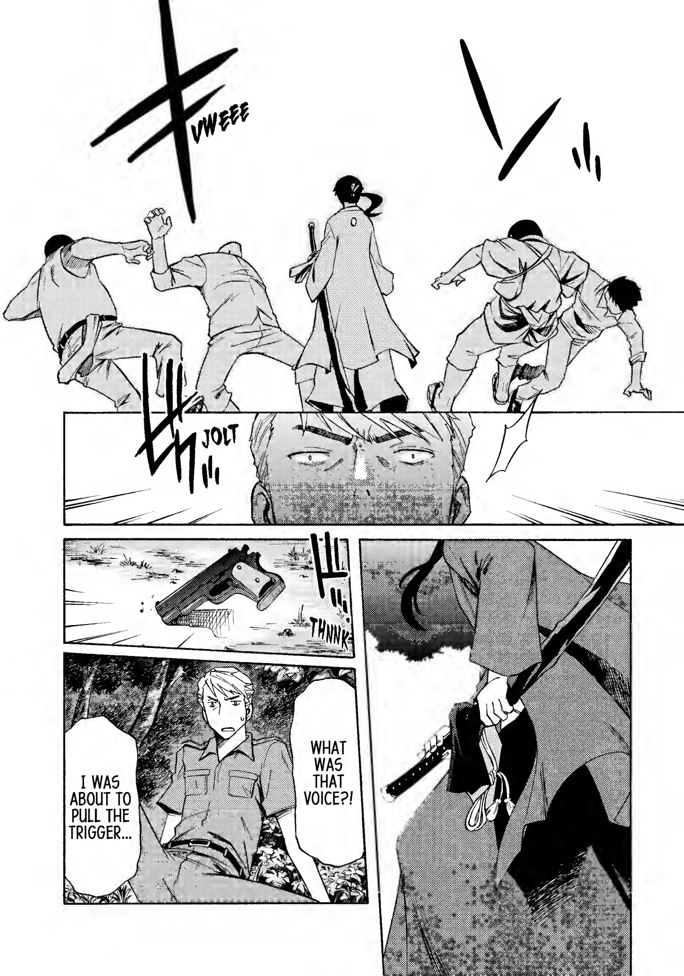

FWHSH
ビュッ!!
VWAM
VOOSH
RUSTLE
ザ
わ…
FWHMP

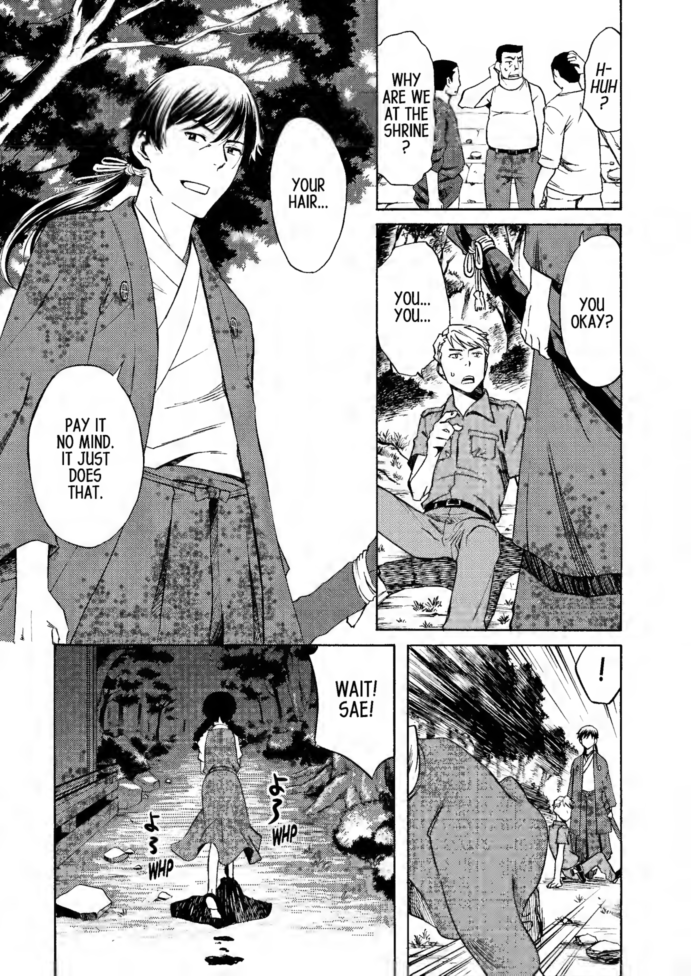

VWHOOOSH
VWHOOOSH
...
!
THIS ISN'T SAFE!!
FWNNCH
SAE?!

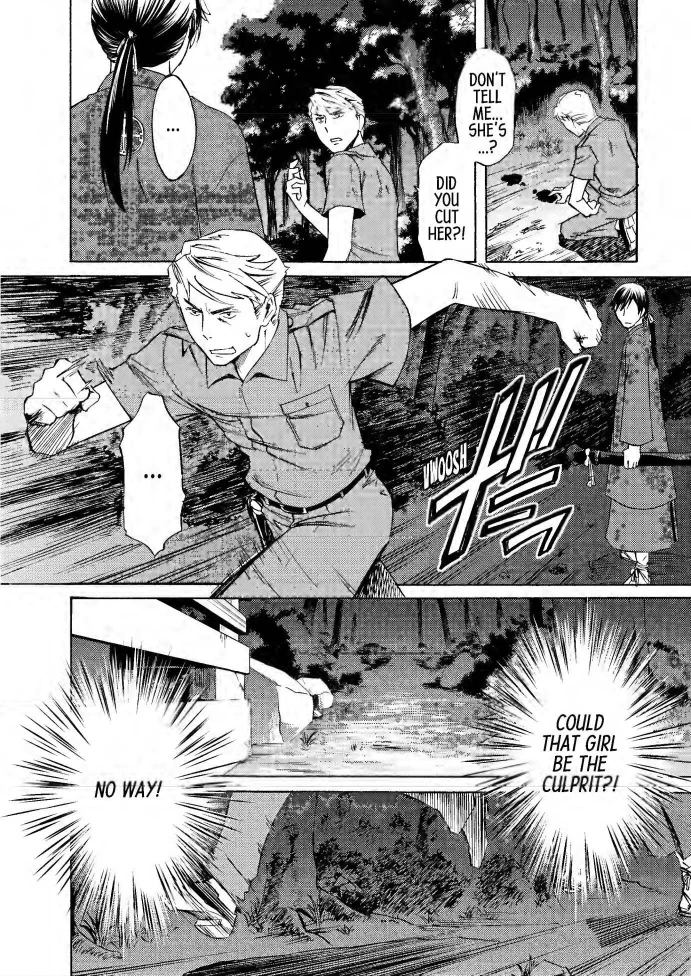

KRIK
KRIK
WHAT JUST HAPPENED?!
GLANCE
ギロッ
HRAAH!
WHSH
ばっ!
FWAM
HIS STRENGTH...
...ISN'T HUMAN!
SKKTCH
SKK
SKK
SKK

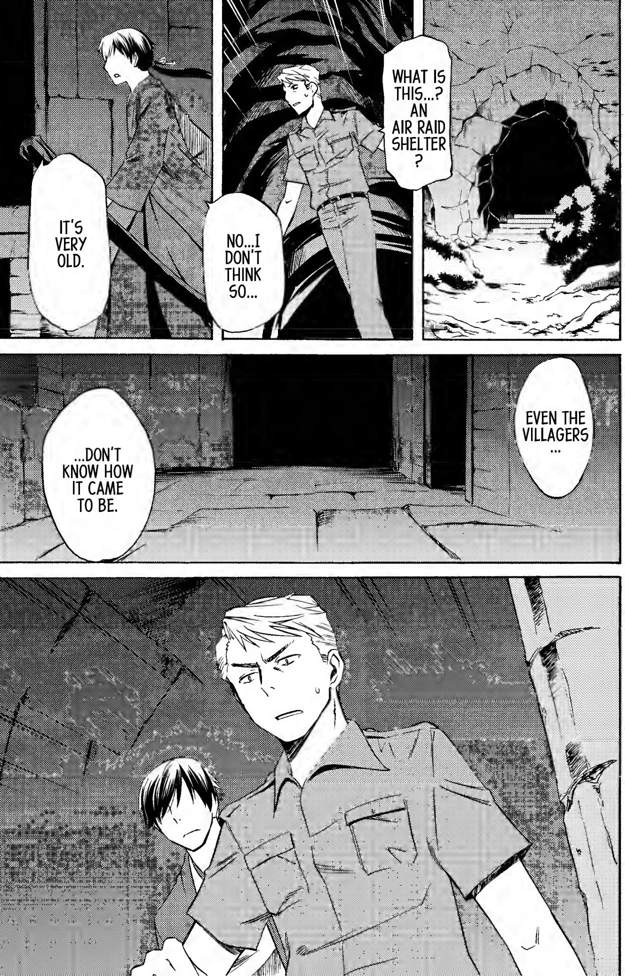

THMP
THMP
RRG...
...
WHMMP
KCHIK
BKAM
KRAK
TROMP
TROMP
STOP!! I'LL HIT YOU NEXT TIME!

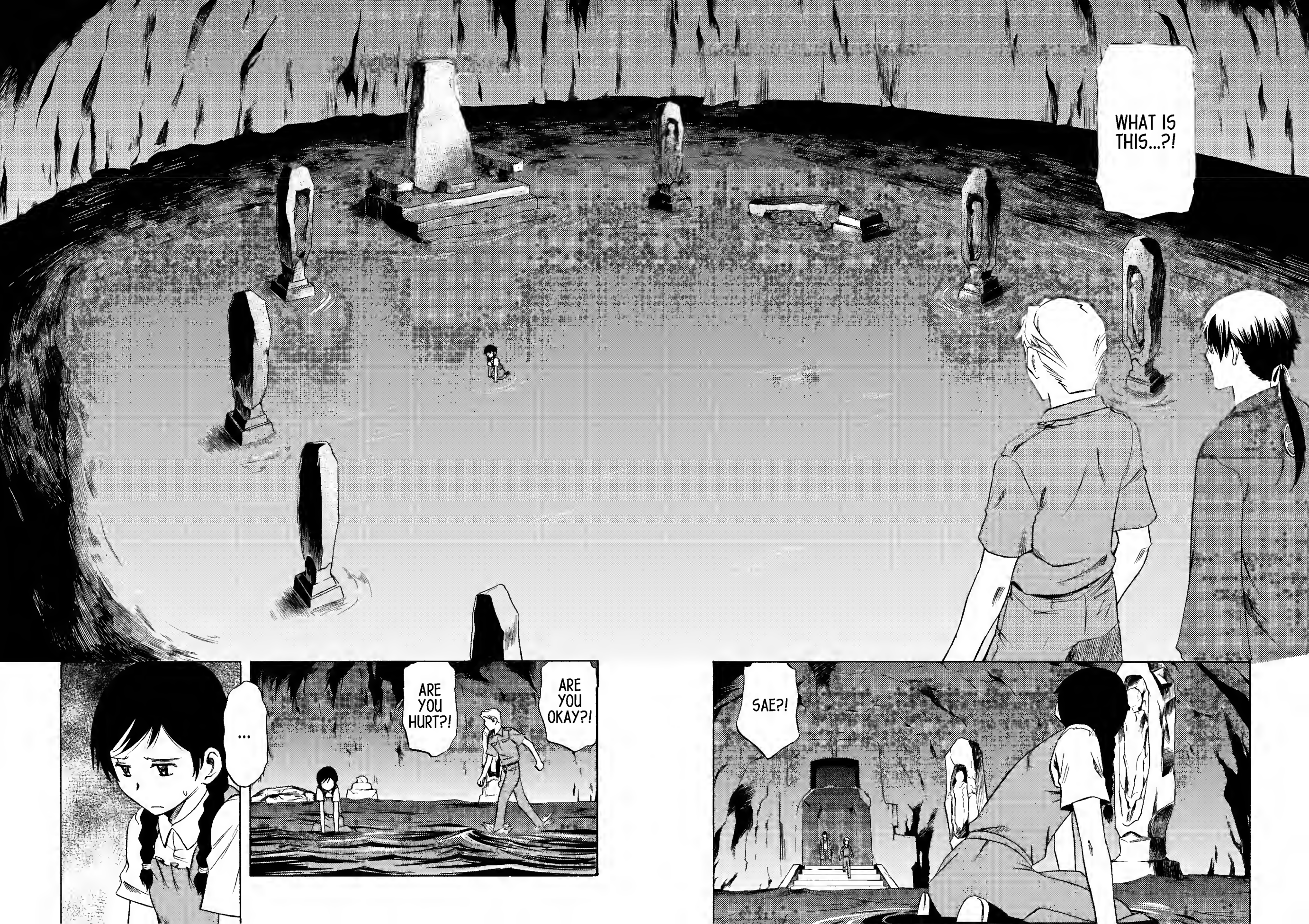

SHOOT!
BREEE
HRRGH...
WHUH... WHAT?!
MY HEAD...
わあっ
GRAAHRRG
S-STOP! I MEAN IT!!
SHOOT!
SHOOT!
SHUT UP!! BE QUIET!!
AH!...

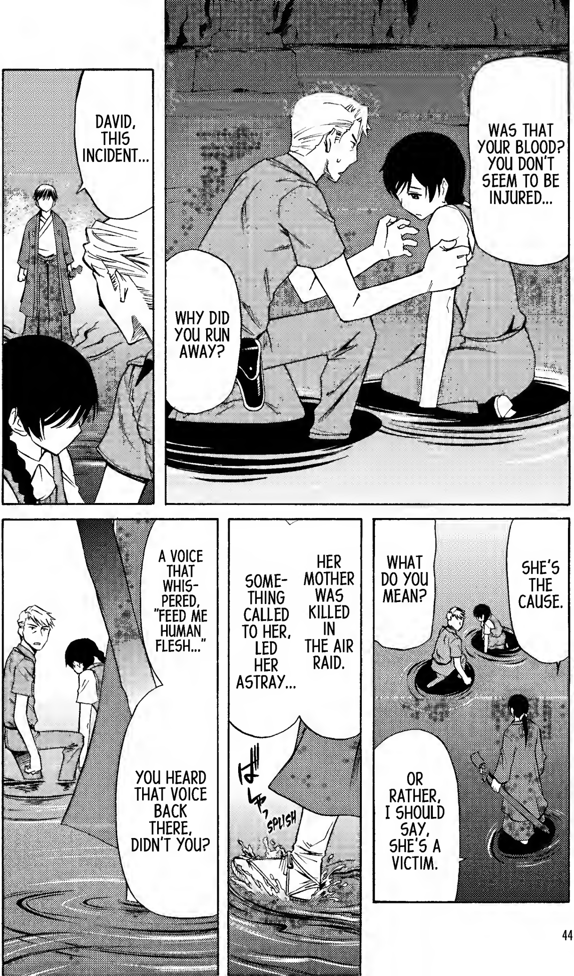

VWEEE
JOLT
THNNK
WHAT WAS THAT VOICE?!
I WAS ABOUT TO PULL THE TRIGGER...

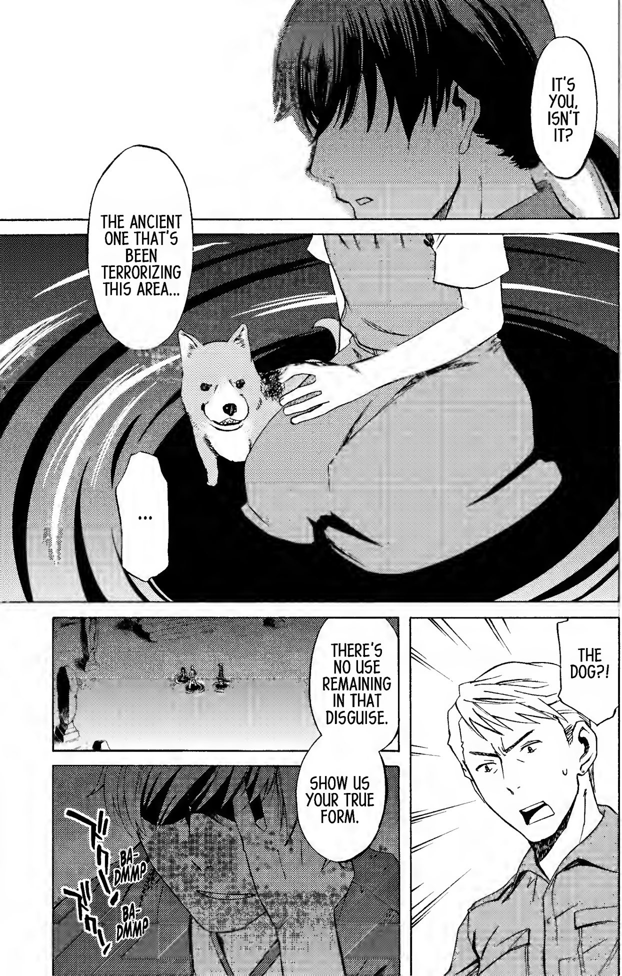

H-HUH?
WHY ARE WE AT THE SHRINE?
YOU OKAY?
YOU... YOU...
YOUR HAIR...
PAY IT NO MIND. IT JUST DOES THAT.
!
WAIT! SAE!
よ～ WHP
よろ WHP

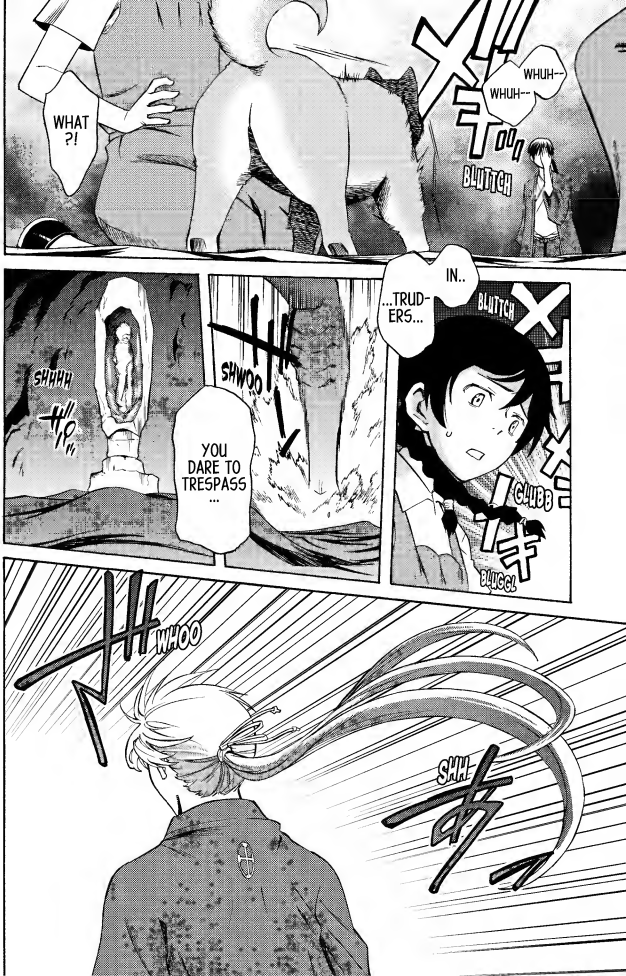

DON'T TELL ME... SHE'S ...?
DID YOU CUT HER?!
...
VWOOSH
...
COULD THAT GIRL BE THE CULPRIT?!
NO WAY!

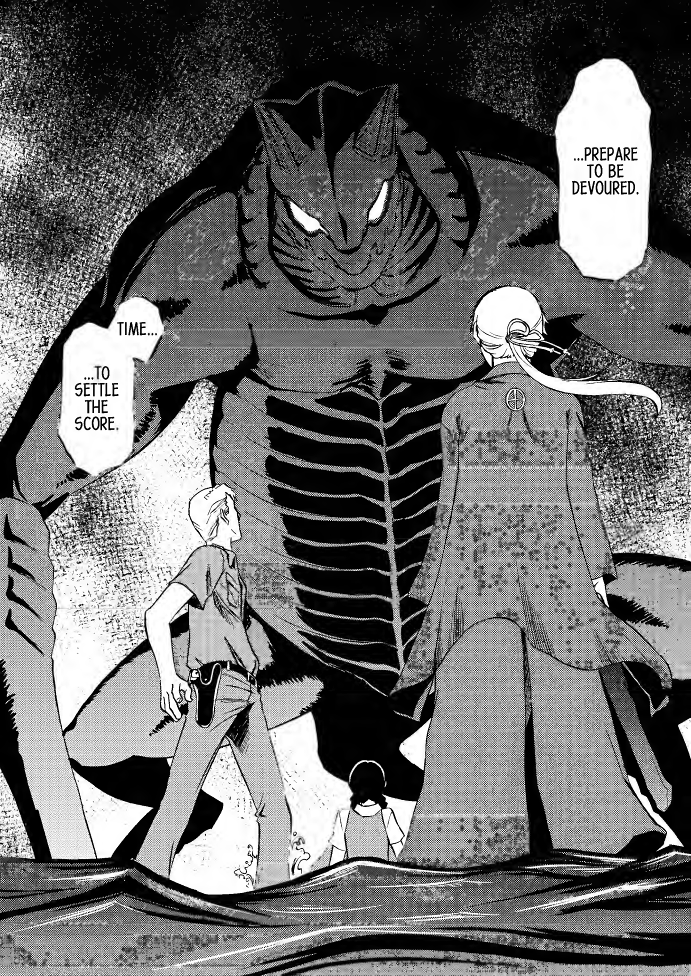

WHAT IS THIS...? AN AIR RAID SHELTER?
NO...I DON'T THINK SO...
IT'S VERY OLD.
EVEN THE VILLAGERS...
...DON'T KNOW HOW IT CAME TO BE.

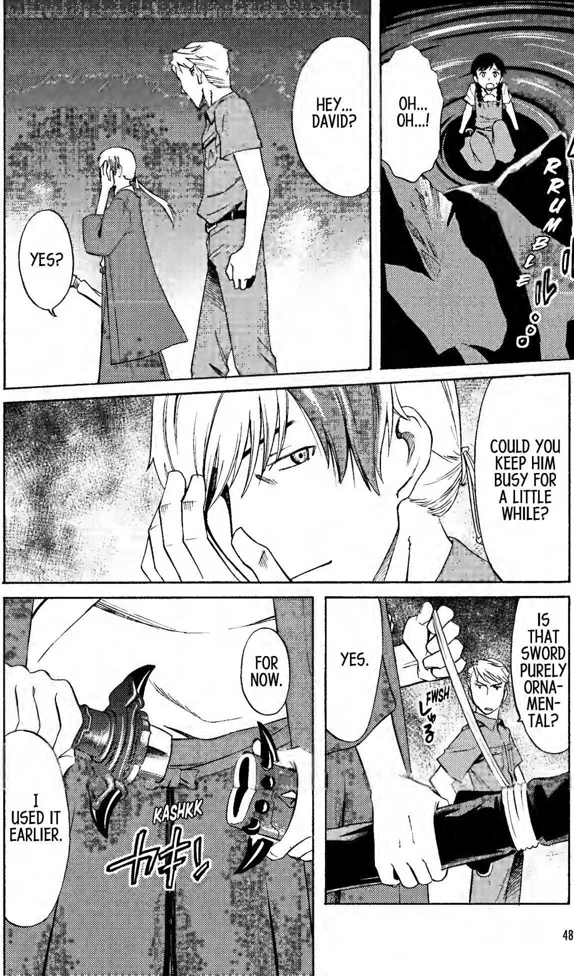

WHAT IS THIS...?!
SAE?!
ARE YOU OKAY?!
ARE YOU HURT?!
...

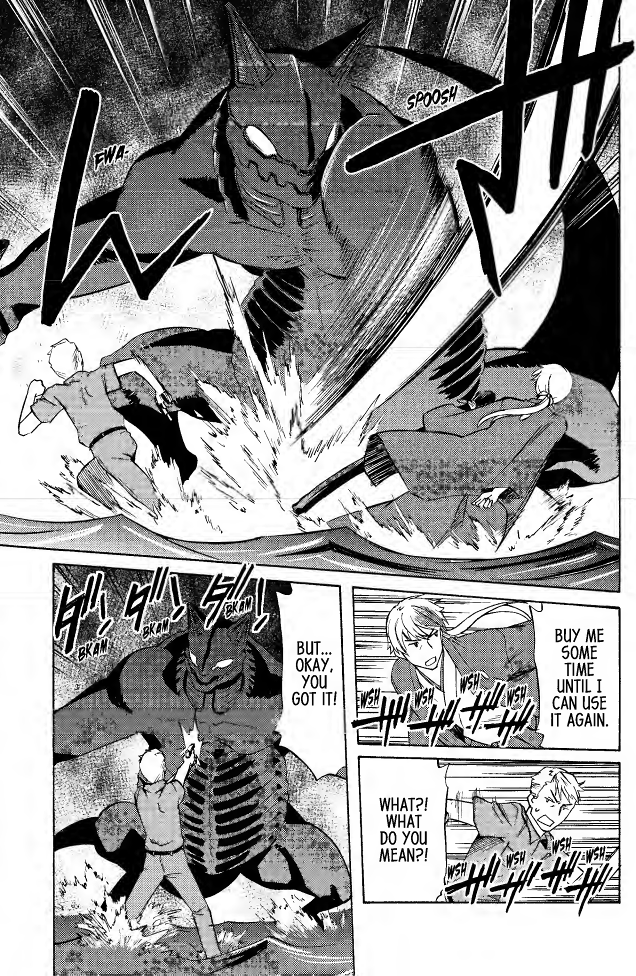

WAS THAT YOUR BLOOD? YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE INJURED...
WHY DID YOU RUN AWAY?
DAVID, THIS INCIDENT...
SHE'S THE CAUSE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
OR RATHER, I SHOULD SAY, SHE'S A VICTIM.
HER MOTHER WAS KILLED IN THE AIR RAID.
SOMETHING CALLED TO HER, LED HER ASTRAY...
SPLISH
A VOICE THAT WHISPERED, "FEED ME HUMAN FLESH..."
YOU HEARD THAT VOICE BACK THERE, DIDN'T YOU?

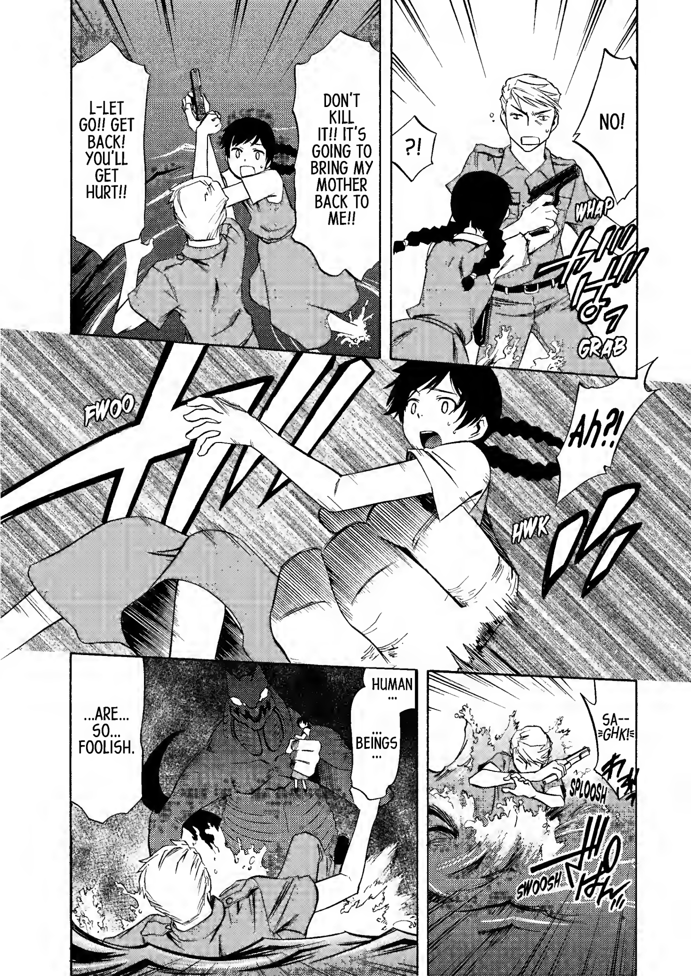

IT'S YOU, ISN'T IT?
THE ANCIENT ONE THAT'S BEEN TERRORIZING THIS AREA...
...
THE DOG?!
THERE'S NO USE REMAINING IN THAT DISGUISE.
SHOW US YOUR TRUE FORM.
BA-DMMP
BA-DMMP

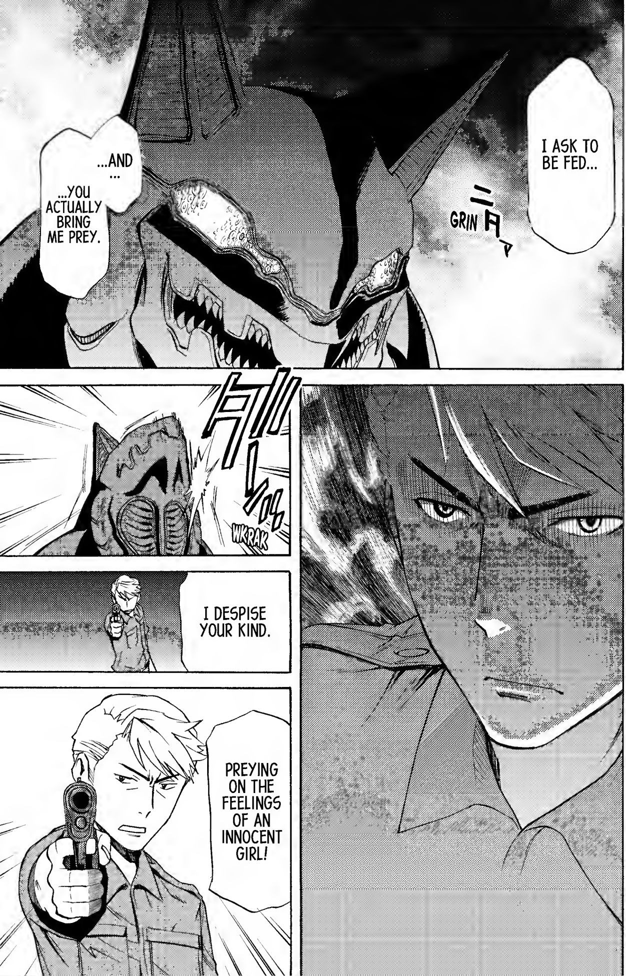

WHUH--
WHUH--
BLUTTCH
WHAT ?!
IN.. ...TRUD- ERS...
BLUTTCH
GLUBB
BLUGGL
SHWOO
YOU DARE TO TRESPASS ...
SHHHH
WHOO
SHH

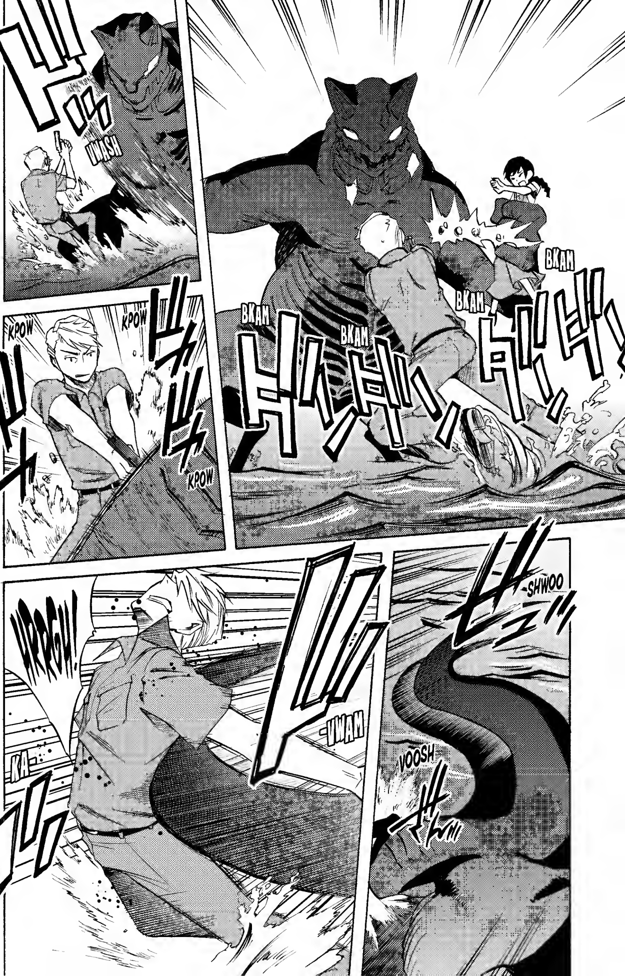

...PREPARE TO BE DEVOURED.
TIME...
...TO SETTLE THE SCORE.

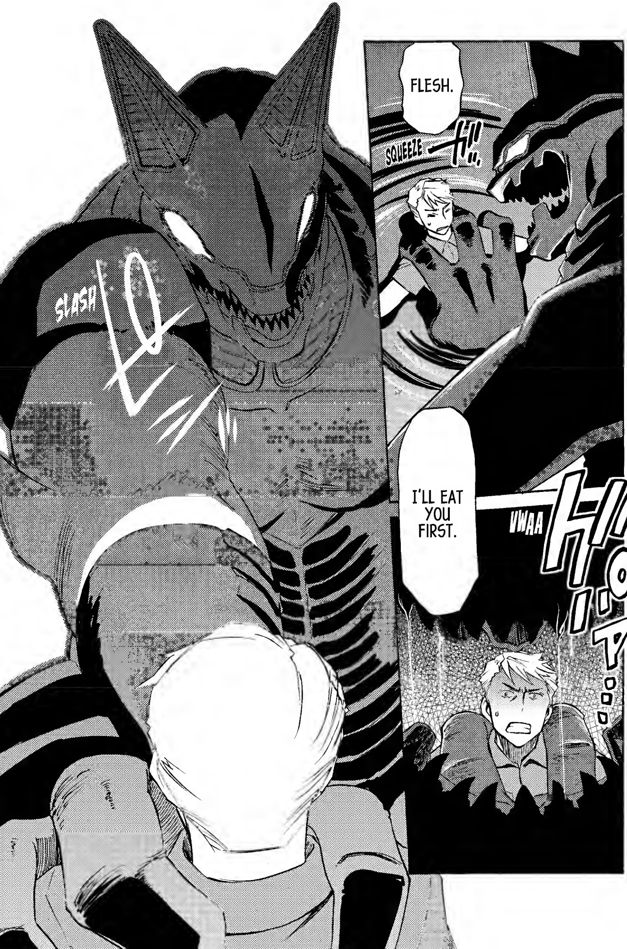

OH... OH...!
RRUMBLE
ゴルルル…
HEY... DAVID?
YES?
COULD YOU KEEP HIM BUSY FOR A LITTLE WHILE?
IS THAT SWORD PURELY ORNAMENTAL?
YES.
FWSH
しゅる
FOR NOW.
I USED IT EARLIER.
KASHKK
カキ!

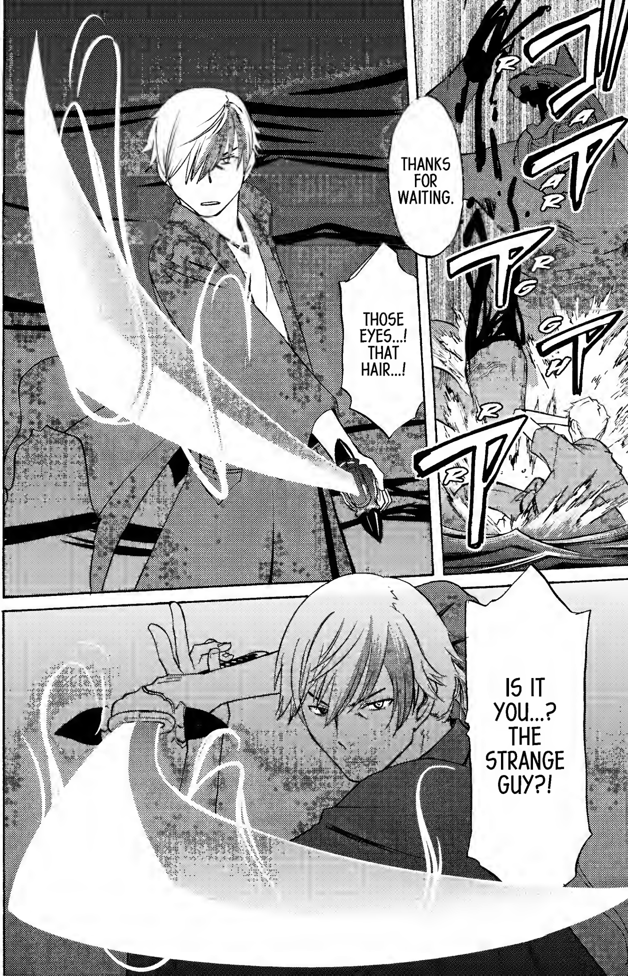

SPOOSH
FWA-
BUY ME SOME TIME UNTIL I CAN USE IT AGAIN.
WSH WSH WSH WSH
WHAT?! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
WSH WSH WSH WSH
BUT... OKAY, YOU GOT IT!
BKAM BKAM BKAM

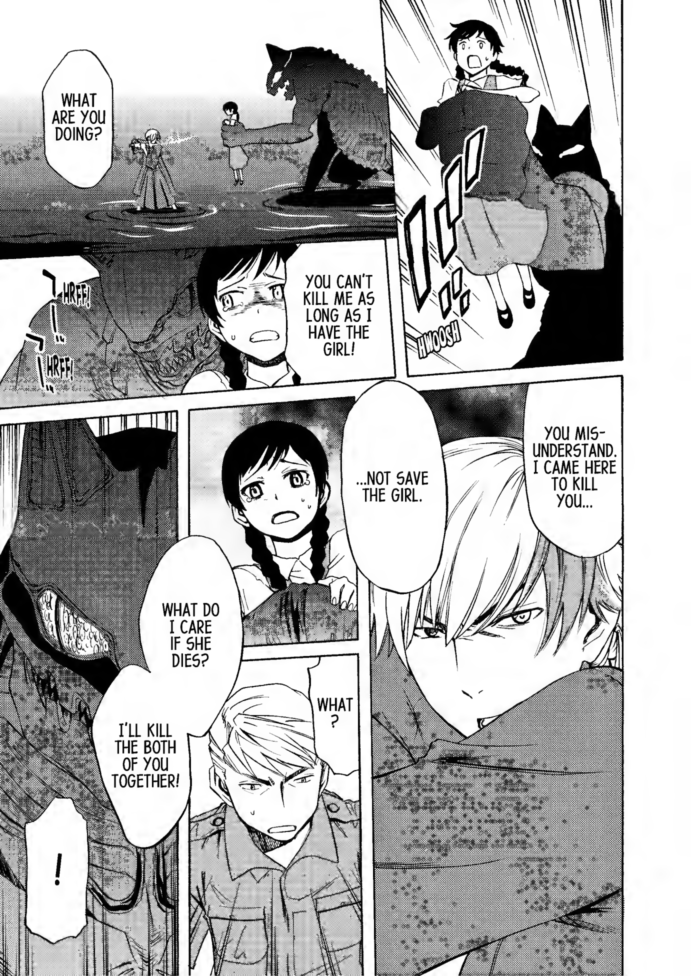

NO!
?!
WHAP
GRAB
DON'T KILL IT!! IT'S GOING TO BRING MY MOTHER BACK TO ME!!
L-LET GO!! GET BACK! YOU'LL GET HURT!!
Ah?!
FWOO
HWK
SA-- ≡GHK!≡
SPLOOSH
SWOOSH
HUMAN ... BEINGS ...
...ARE... SO... FOOLISH.

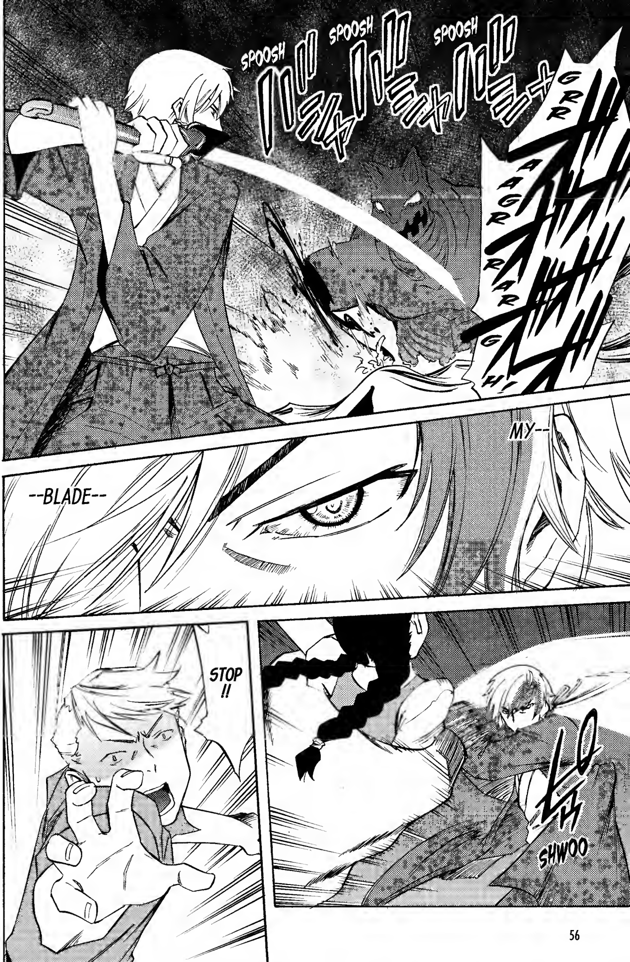

I ASK TO BE FED...
GRIN ニヤ
...AND ... ...YOU ACTUALLY BRING ME PREY.
WKRAK
I DESPISE YOUR KIND.
PREYING ON THE FEELINGS OF AN INNOCENT GIRL!

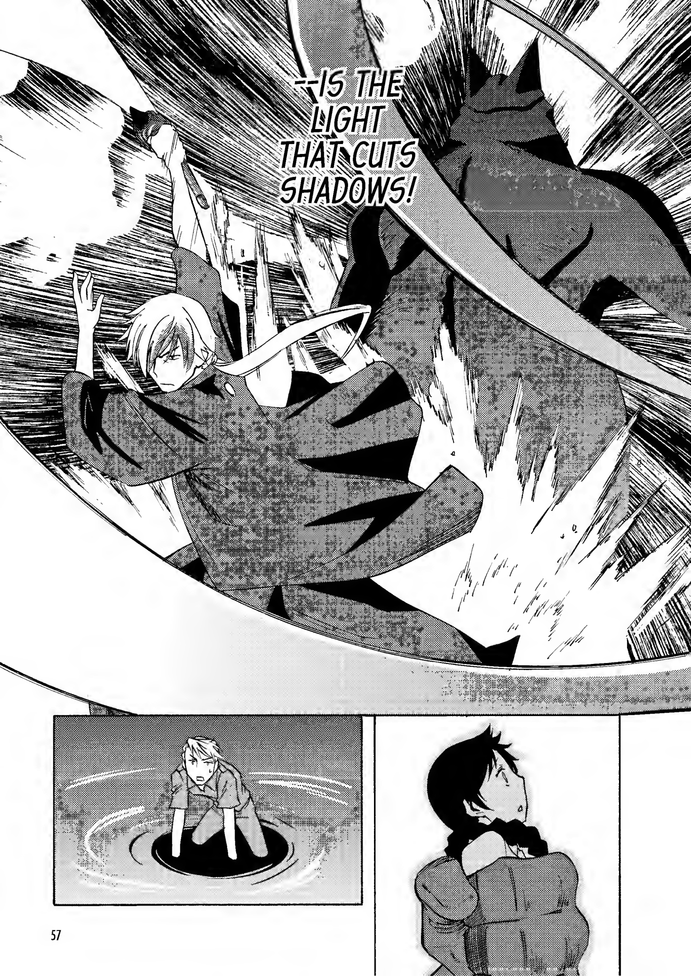

BKAM
BKAM
BKAM
BKAM
VWASH
KPOW
KPOW
KPOW
SHWOO
VOOSH
VWAM
HRRGH!
KA-

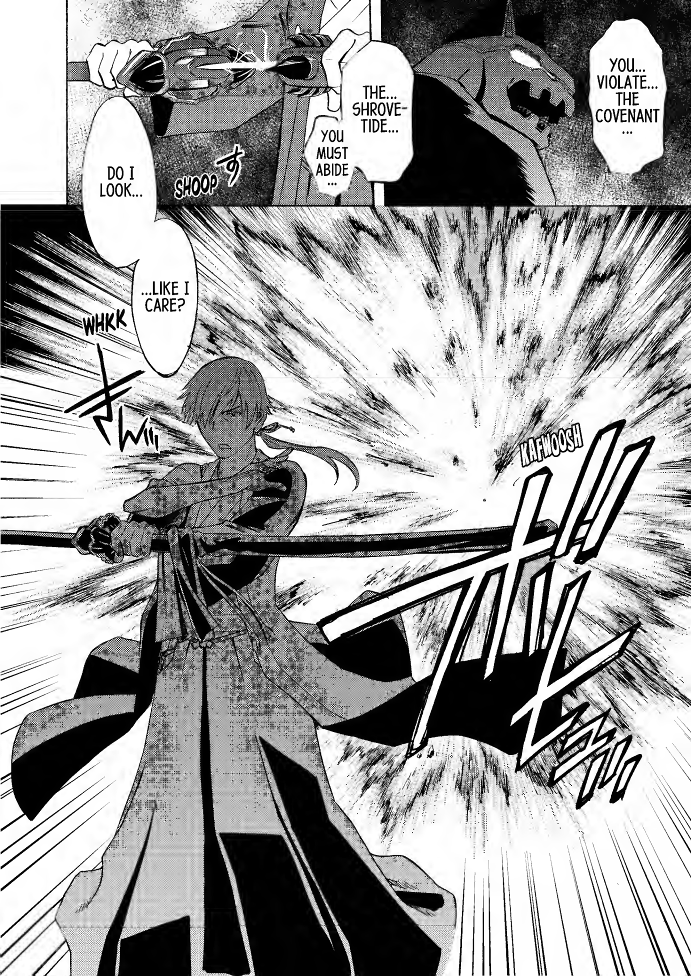

FLESH.
SQUEEZE
ガ!!
I'LL EAT YOU FIRST.
VWAA
ガパァ…
SLASH
ロ

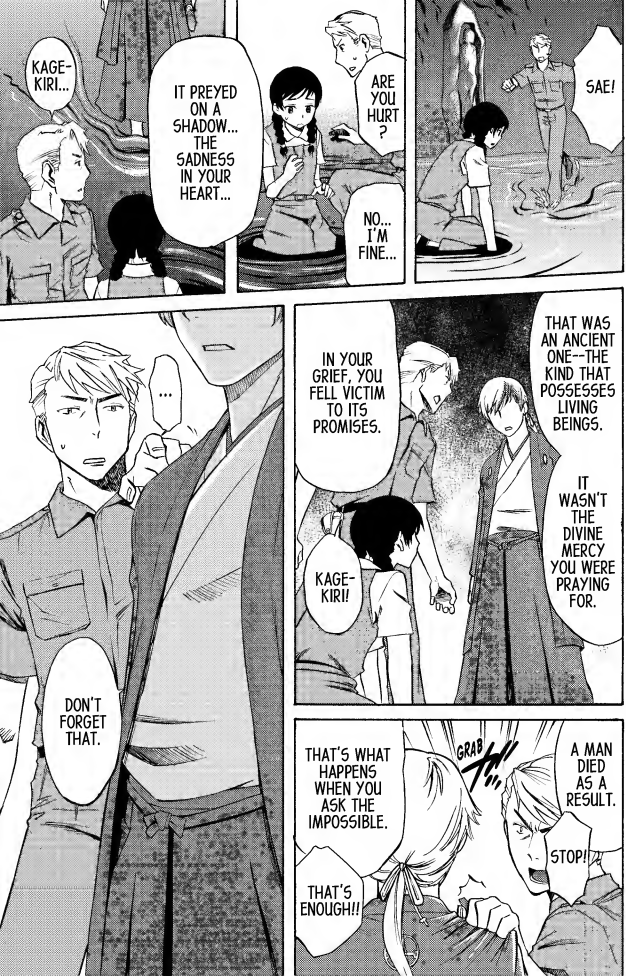

ゴァァァァ
RAARRGGHRR
THANKS FOR WAITING.
THOSE EYES...! THAT HAIR...!
IS IT YOU...? THE STRANGE GUY?!

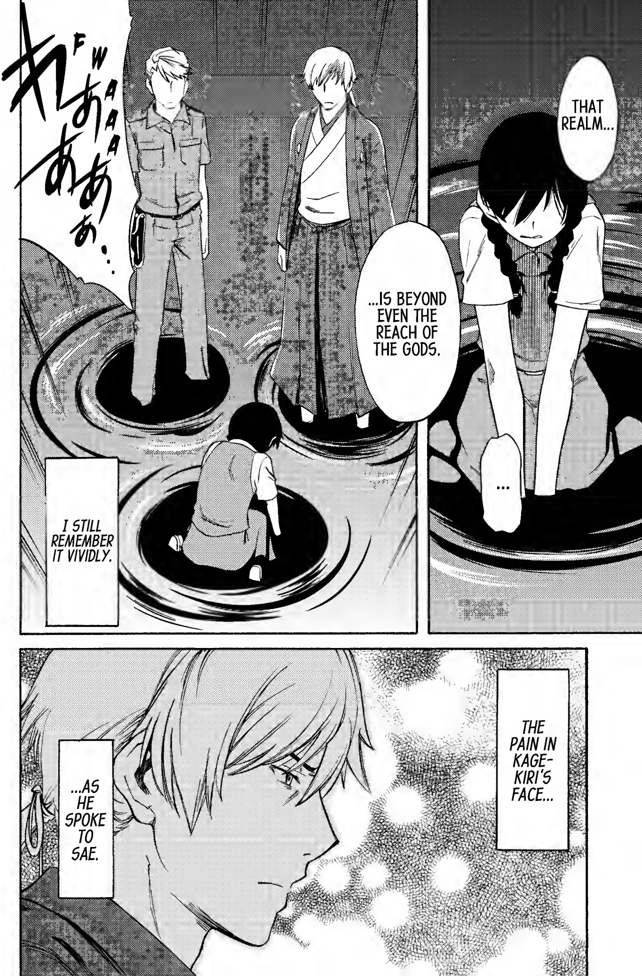

HWOOSH
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
YOU CAN'T KILL ME AS LONG AS I HAVE THE GIRL!
HRFF!
HRFF!
YOU MIS-UNDERSTAND. I CAME HERE TO KILL YOU...
...NOT SAVE THE GIRL.
WHAT?
WHAT DO I CARE IF SHE DIES?
I'LL KILL THE BOTH OF YOU TOGETHER!
!

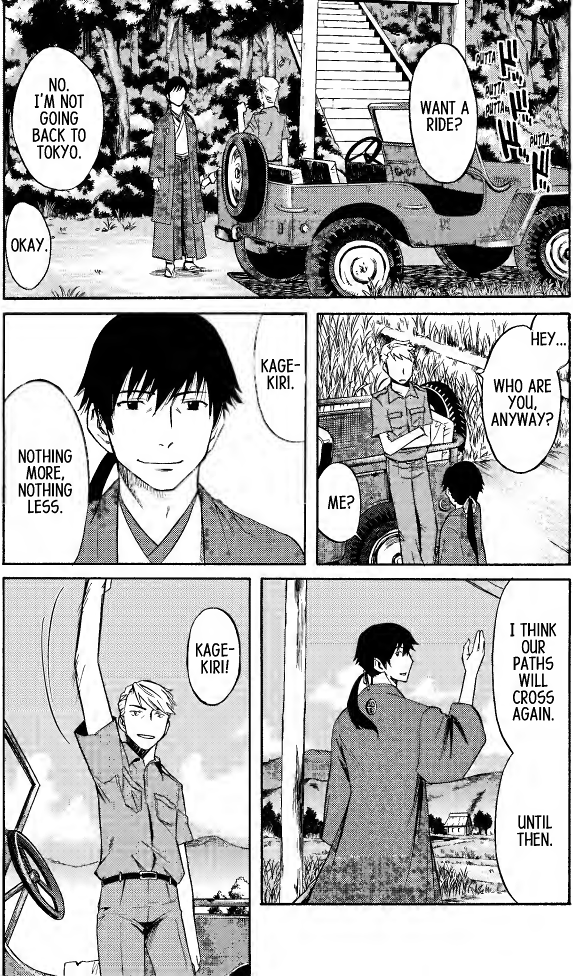

GRR
AAGRRARRGH!
SPOOSH
SPOOSH
SPOOSH
MY--
--BLADE--
SHWOO
STOP !!

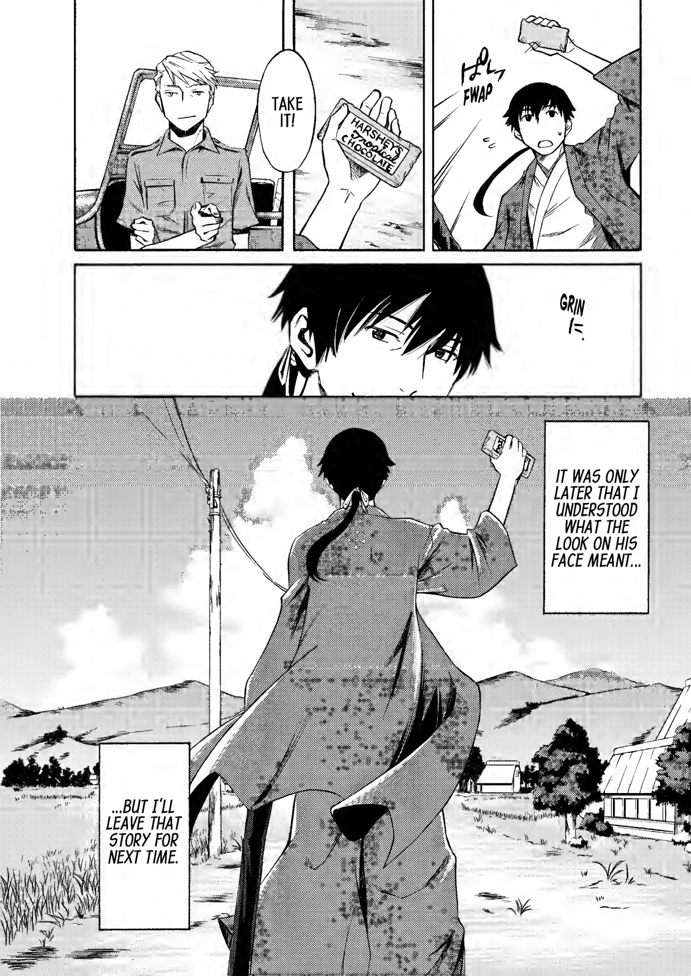

--IS THE LIGHT THAT CUTS SHADOWS!


YOU... VIOLATE... THE COVENANT...
THE... SHROVE-TIDE...
YOU MUST ABIDE...
SHOOP す
DO I LOOK...
...LIKE I CARE?
KAFWOOSH
WHKK


SAE!
ARE YOU HURT?
NO... I'M FINE...
KAGE-KIRI...
IT PREYED ON A SHADOW... THE SADNESS IN YOUR HEART...
THAT WAS AN ANCIENT ONE--THE KIND THAT POSSESSES LIVING BEINGS.
IT WASN'T THE DIVINE MERCY YOU WERE PRAYING FOR.
IN YOUR GRIEF, YOU FELL VICTIM TO ITS PROMISES.
KAGE-KIRI!
A MAN DIED AS A RESULT.
THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ASK THE IMPOSSIBLE.
GRAB
STOP!
THAT'S ENOUGH!!
...
DON'T FORGET THAT.


THAT REALM...
...IS BEYOND EVEN THE REACH OF THE GODS.
...
わああああ…
FWAAAA...
I STILL REMEMBER IT VIVIDLY.
THE PAIN IN KAGE-KIRI'S FACE...
...AS HE SPOKE TO SAE.


PUTTA PUTTA PUTTA PUTTA
WANT A RIDE?
NO. I'M NOT GOING BACK TO TOKYO.
OKAY.
HEY...
WHO ARE YOU, ANYWAY?
ME?
KAGEKIRI.
NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS.
I THINK OUR PATHS WILL CROSS AGAIN.
UNTIL THEN.
KAGEKIRI!


ぱしっ
FWAP
TAKE IT!
HARSHEY'S
Tropical
CHOCOLATE
GRIN
に
IT WAS ONLY LATER THAT I UNDERSTOOD WHAT THE LOOK ON HIS FACE MEANT...
...BUT I'LL LEAVE THAT STORY FOR NEXT TIME.

十六夜鬼譚

BLOOD-C
DEMONIC
MOONLIGHT

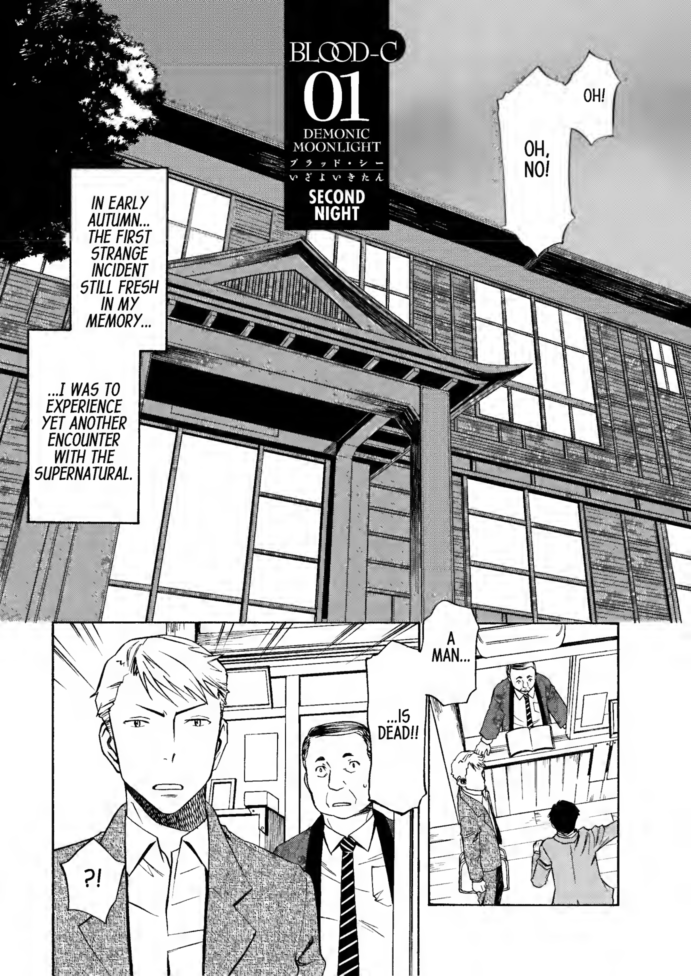
BLOOD-C

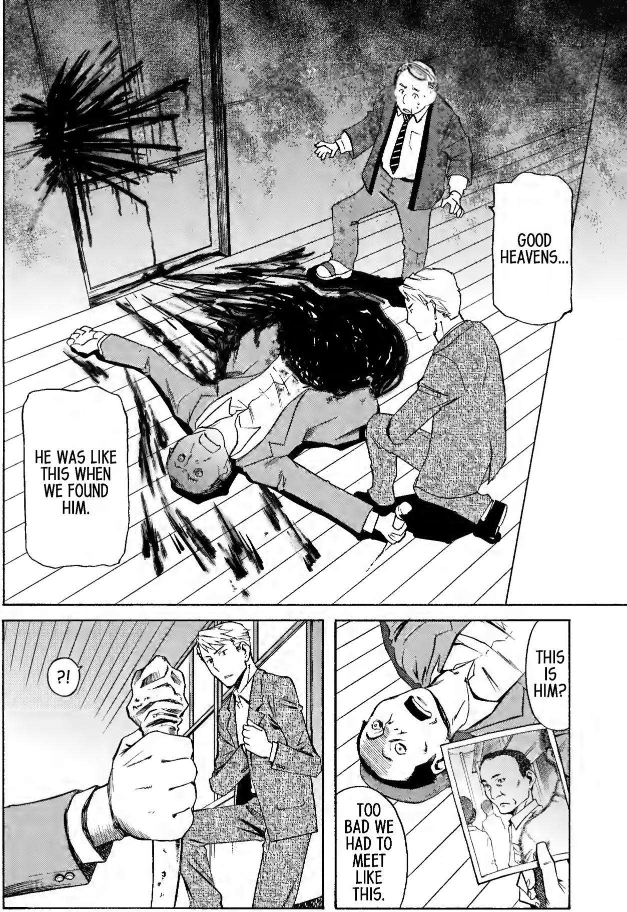
01

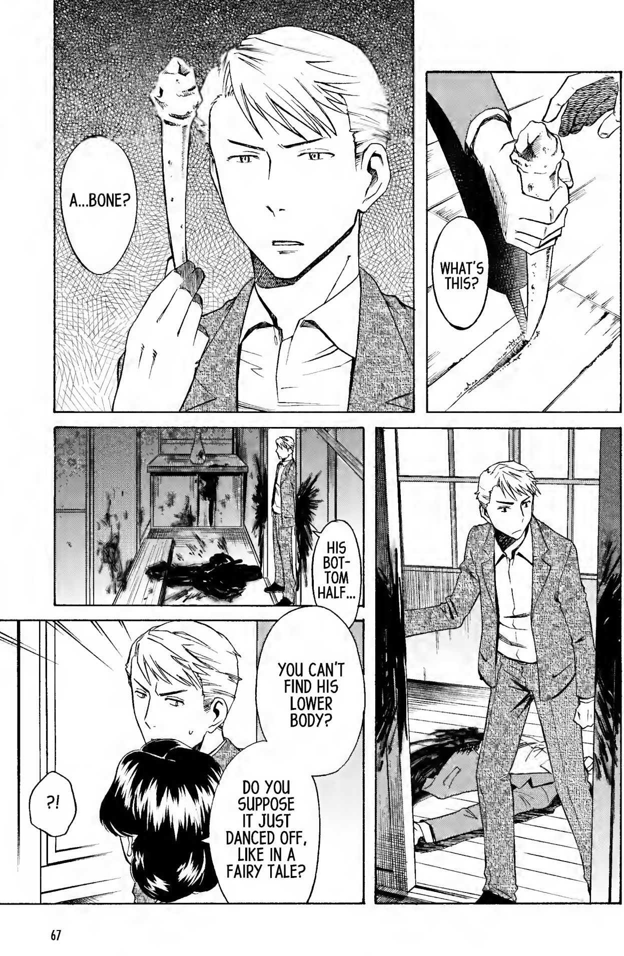
DEMONIC MOONLIGHT

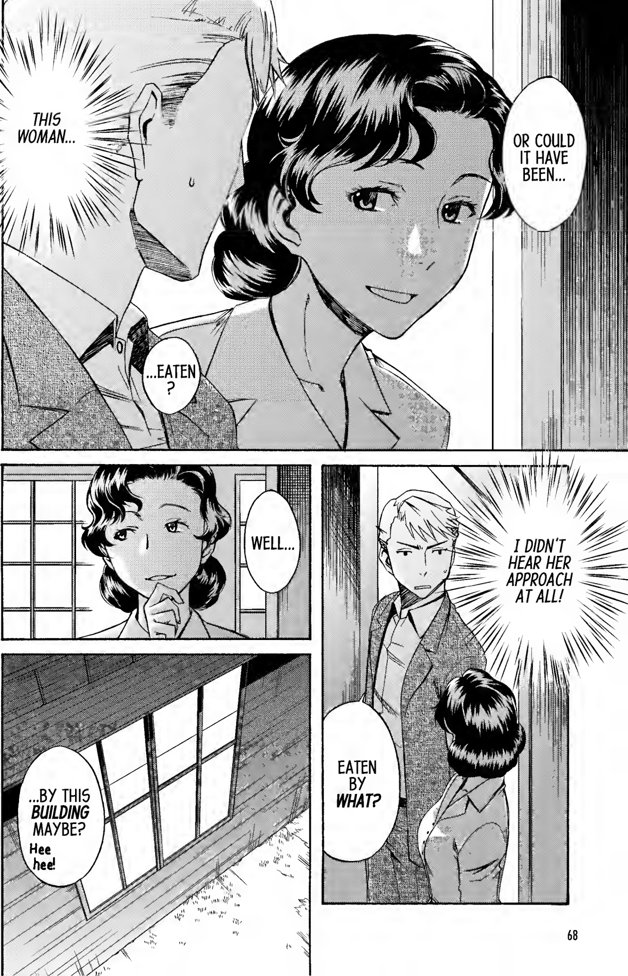
ブラッド・シー
いざよいきたん

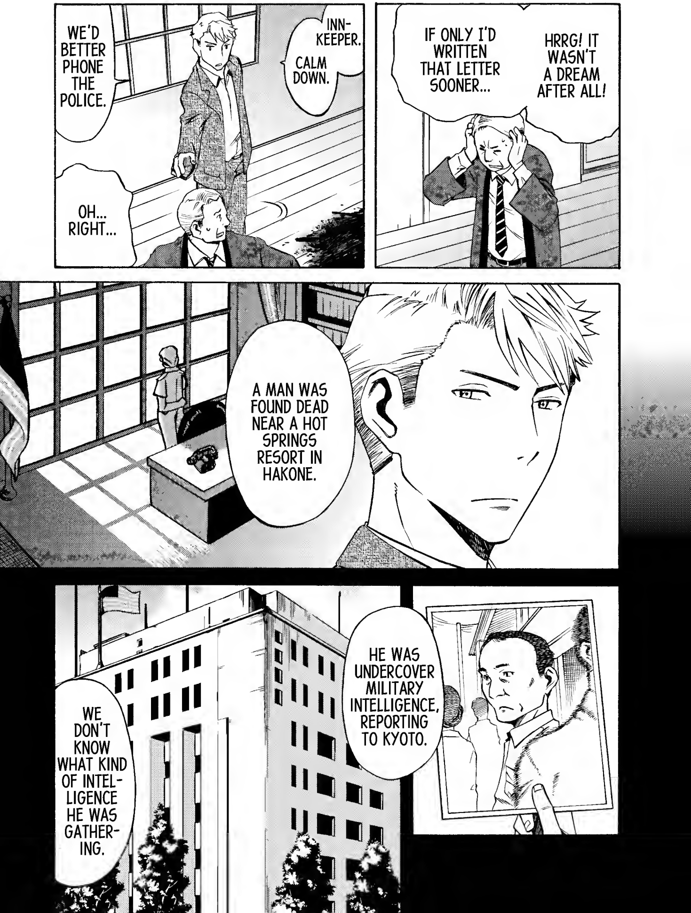
SECOND NIGHT

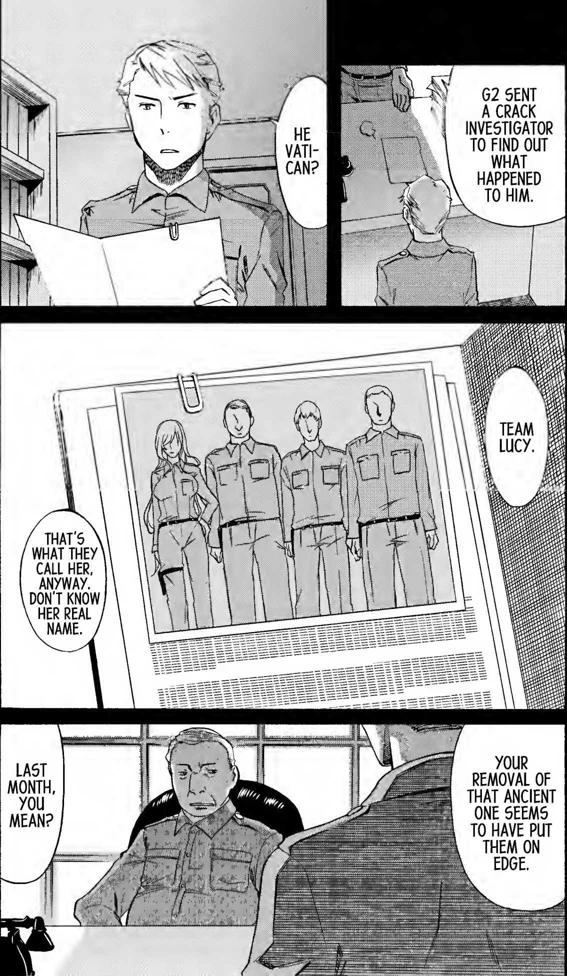

OH!
OH, NO!
IN EARLY AUTUMN... THE FIRST STRANGE INCIDENT STILL FRESH IN MY MEMORY...
...I WAS TO EXPERIENCE YET ANOTHER ENCOUNTER WITH THE SUPERNATURAL.
A MAN...
...IS DEAD!!
?!

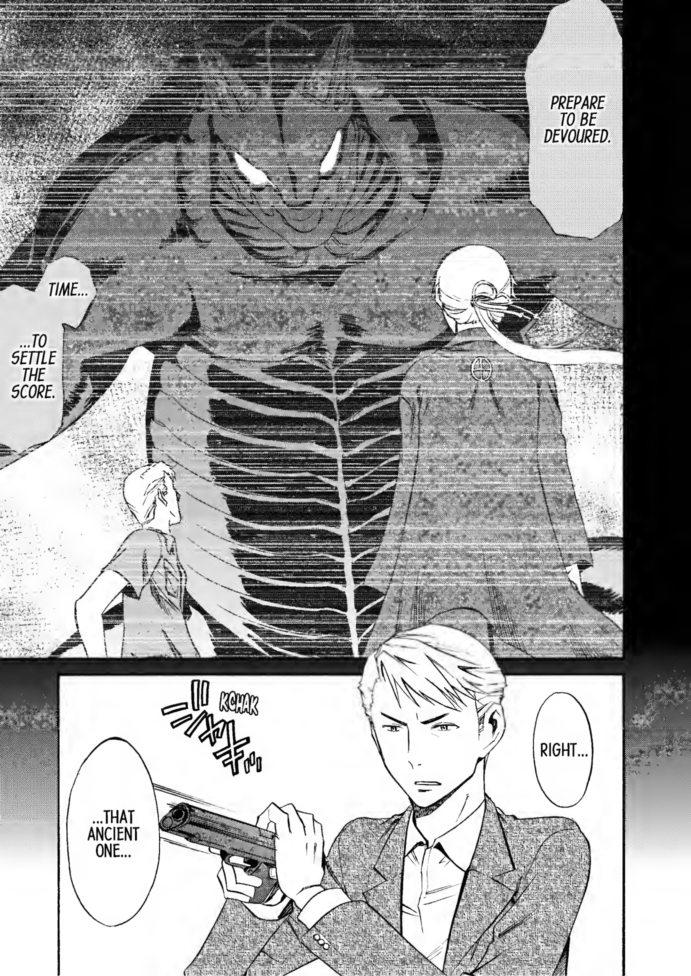

GOOD HEAVENS...
HE WAS LIKE THIS WHEN WE FOUND HIM.
THIS IS HIM?
TOO BAD WE HAD TO MEET LIKE THIS.
?!

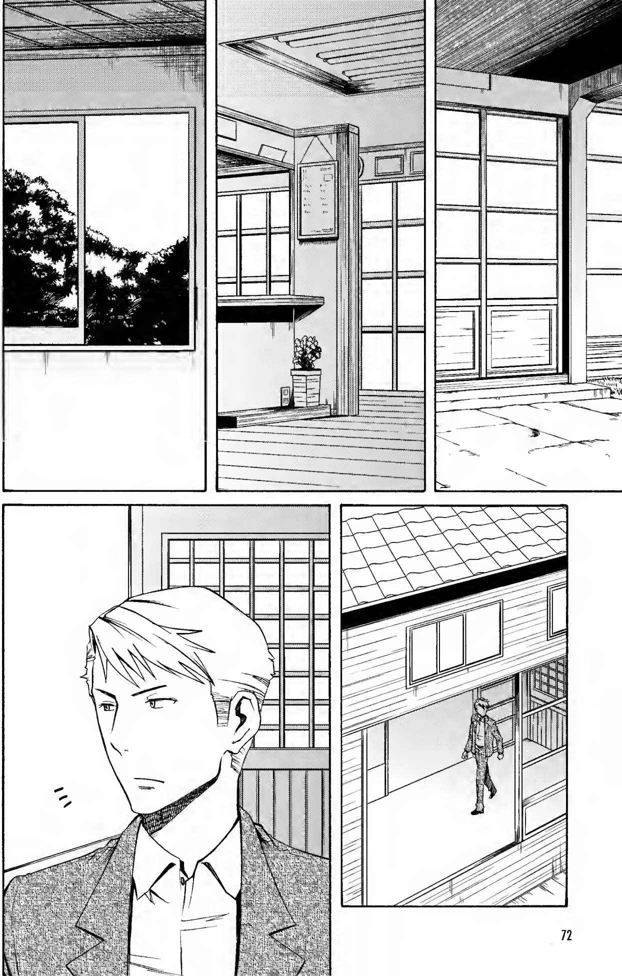

WHAT'S THIS?
A...BONE?
HIS BOTTOM HALF...
YOU CAN'T FIND HIS LOWER BODY?
DO YOU SUPPOSE IT JUST DANCED OFF, LIKE IN A FAIRY TALE?
?!

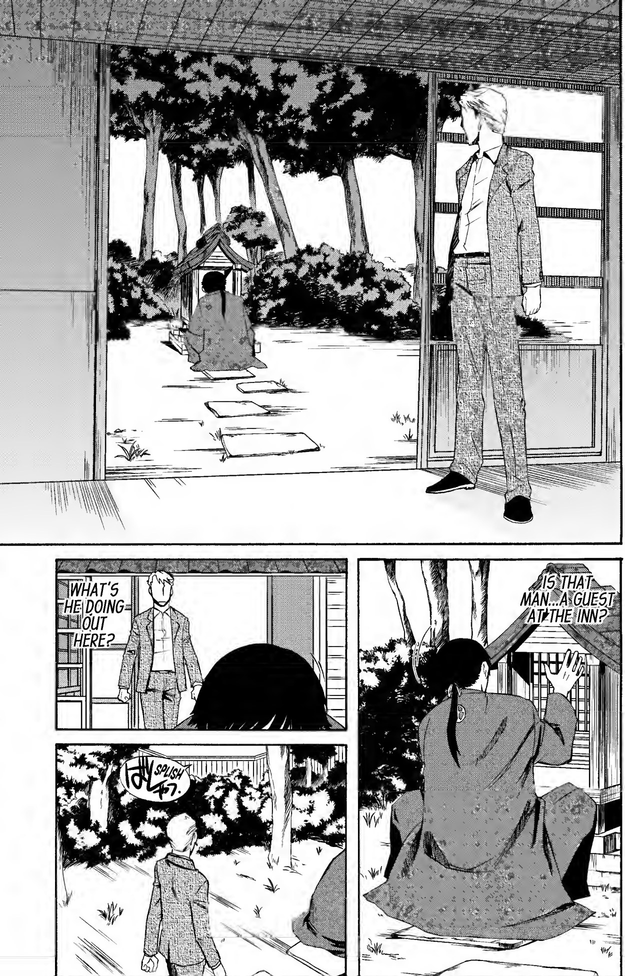

OR COULD IT HAVE BEEN...
...EATEN?
THIS WOMAN...
I DIDN'T HEAR HER APPROACH AT ALL!
EATEN BY ***WHAT?***
WELL...
...BY THIS ***BUILDING*** MAYBE?
Hee hee!

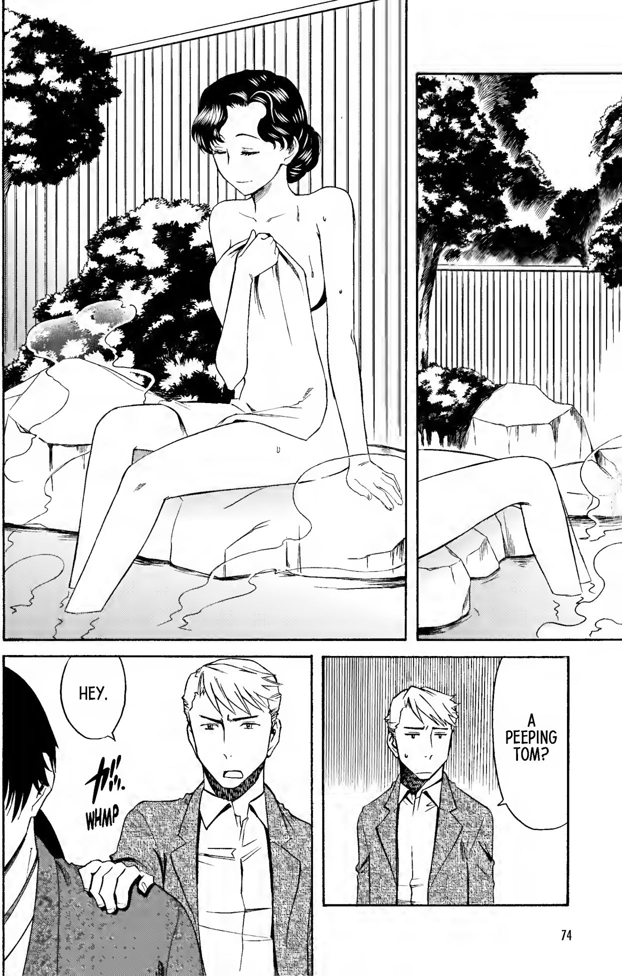

HRRG! IT WASN'T A DREAM AFTER ALL!
IF ONLY I'D WRITTEN THAT LETTER SOONER...
INN-KEEPER. CALM DOWN.
WE'D BETTER PHONE THE POLICE.
OH... RIGHT...
A MAN WAS FOUND DEAD NEAR A HOT SPRINGS RESORT IN HAKONE.
HE WAS UNDERCOVER MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, REPORTING TO KYOTO.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF INTELLIGENCE HE WAS GATHERING.

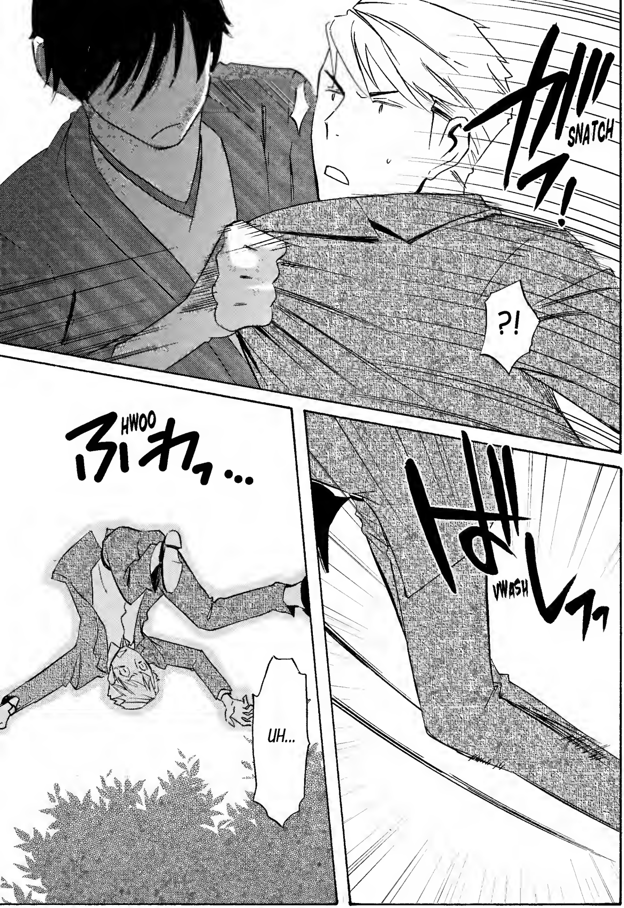

G2 SENT A CRACK INVESTIGATOR TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM.
HE VATICAN?
TEAM LUCY.
THAT'S WHAT THEY CALL HER, ANYWAY. DON'T KNOW HER REAL NAME.
YOUR REMOVAL OF THAT ANCIENT ONE SEEMS TO HAVE PUT THEM ON EDGE.
LAST MONTH, YOU MEAN?

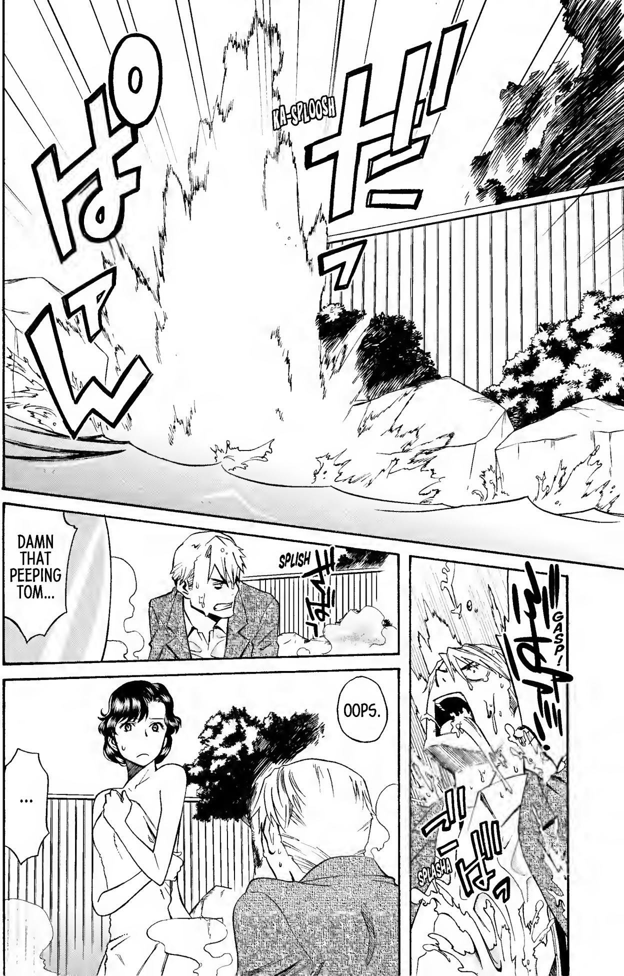

PREPARE TO BE DEVOURED.
TIME...
...TO SETTLE THE SCORE.
RIGHT...
ジャキッ
KCHAK
...THAT ANCIENT ONE...

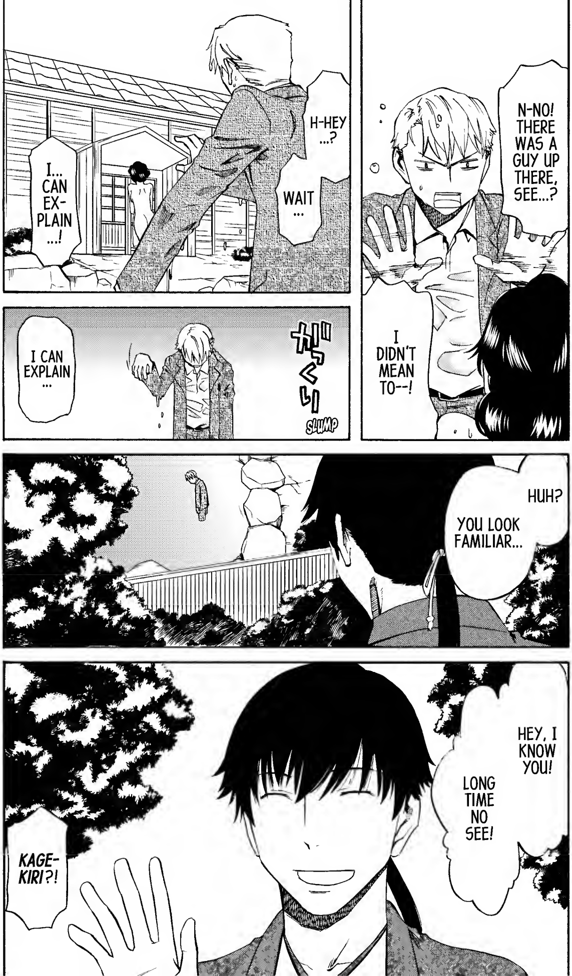


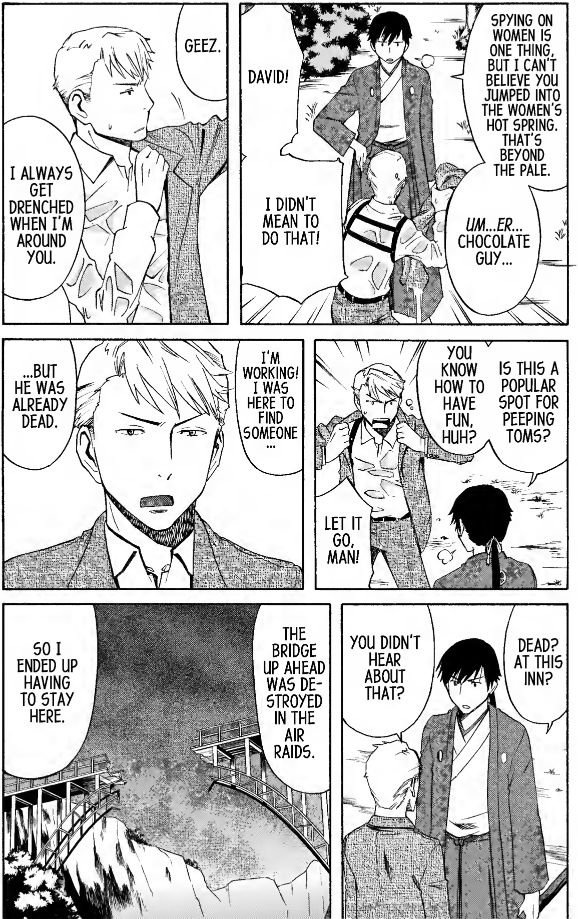

IS THAT MAN...A GUEST AT THE INN?
WHAT'S HE DOING OUT HERE?
ぱしゃっ SPLISH

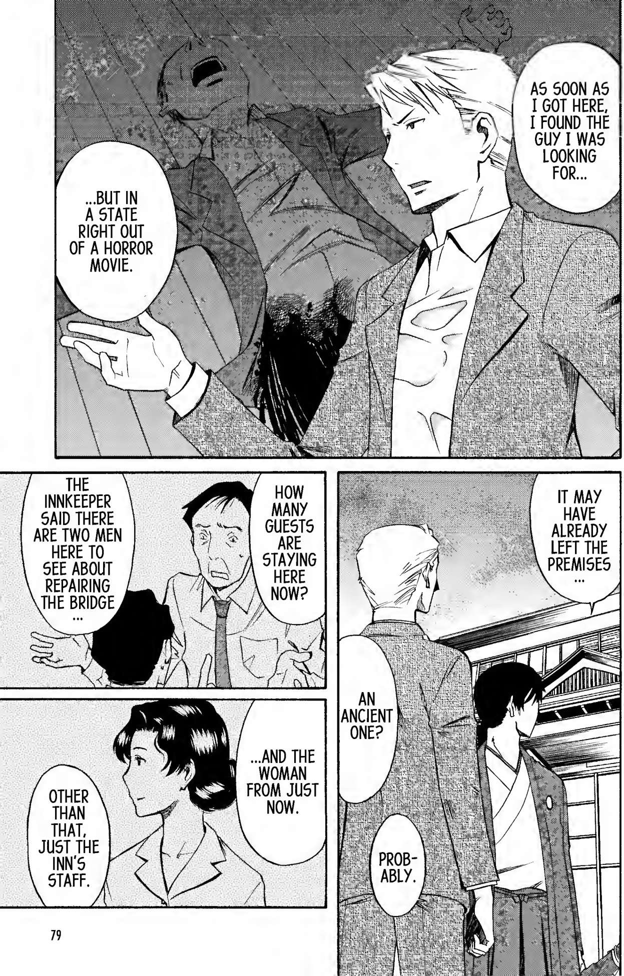

A PEEPING TOM?
HEY.
ガッ
WHMP

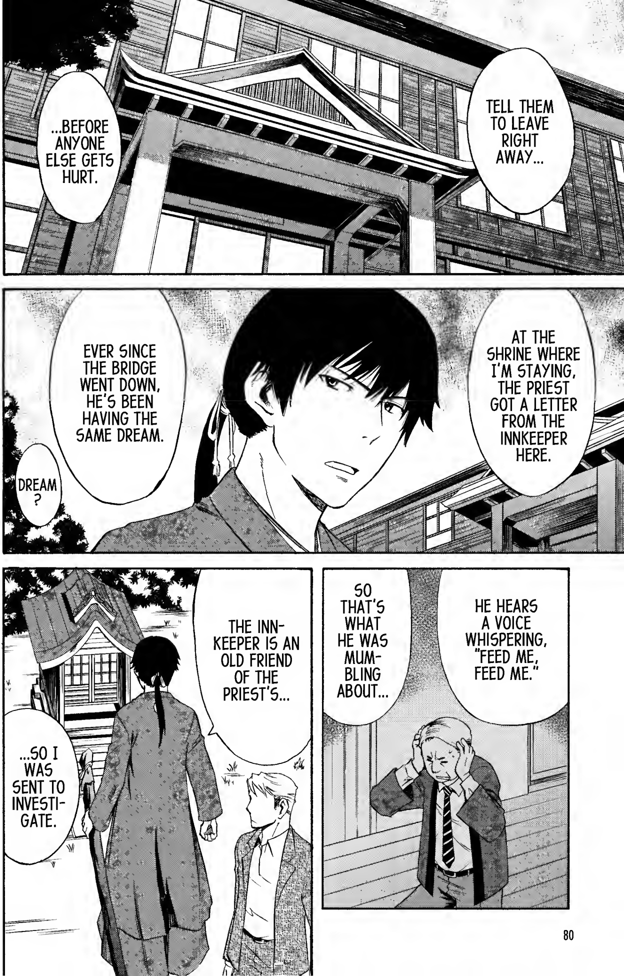

ガイ!
SNATCH
?!
ばしっっ
VWASH
ふわっ…
HWOO
UH...

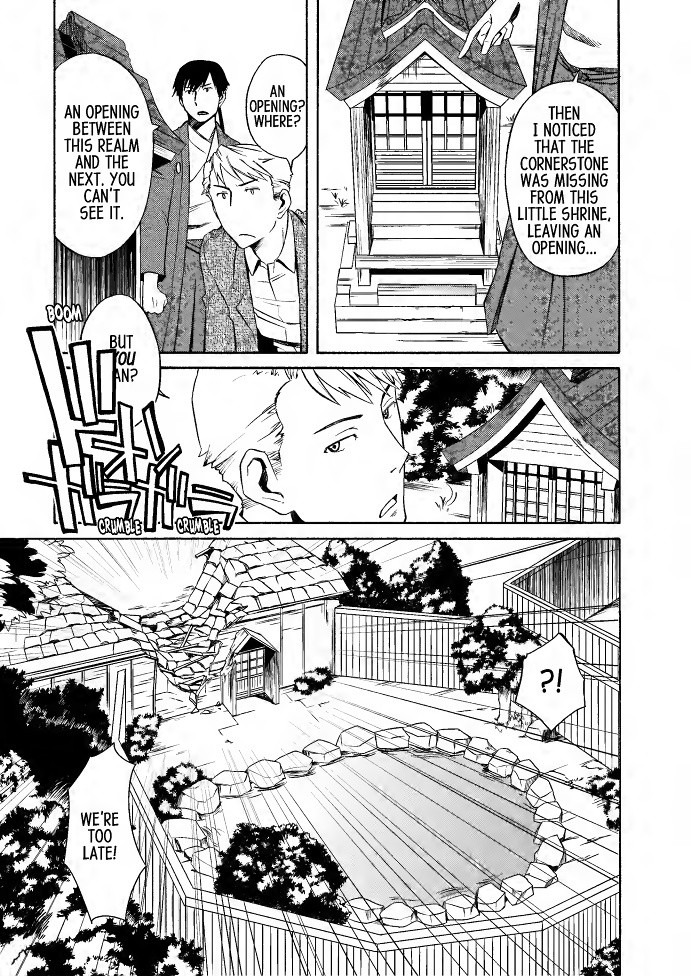

KA-SPLOOSH
GASP!
SPLASHA
SPLISH
DAMN THAT PEEPING TOM...
OOPS.
...

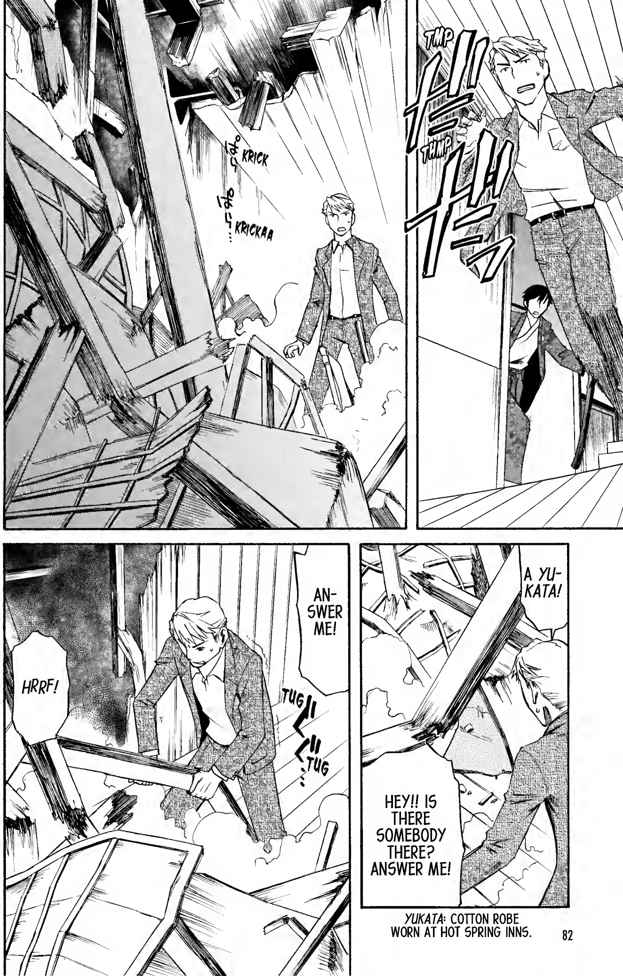

N-NO! THERE WAS A GUY UP THERE, SEE...?
I DIDN'T MEAN TO--!
H-HEY ...?
WAIT ...
I... CAN EX-PLAIN ...!
がっくり
SLUMP
I CAN EXPLAIN ...
HUH?
YOU LOOK FAMILIAR...
HEY, I KNOW YOU!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
KAGE-KIRI?!


SPYING ON WOMEN IS ONE THING, BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUMPED INTO THE WOMEN'S HOT SPRING. THAT'S BEYOND THE PALE.
UM...ER... CHOCOLATE GUY...
DAVID!
I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO THAT!
GEEZ.
I ALWAYS GET DRENCHED WHEN I'M AROUND YOU.
IS THIS A POPULAR SPOT FOR PEEPING TOMS?
YOU KNOW HOW TO HAVE FUN, HUH?
LET IT GO, MAN!
I'M WORKING! I WAS HERE TO FIND SOMEONE...
...BUT HE WAS ALREADY DEAD.
DEAD? AT THIS INN?
YOU DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT THAT?
THE BRIDGE UP AHEAD WAS DESTROYED IN THE AIR RAIDS.
SO I ENDED UP HAVING TO STAY HERE.

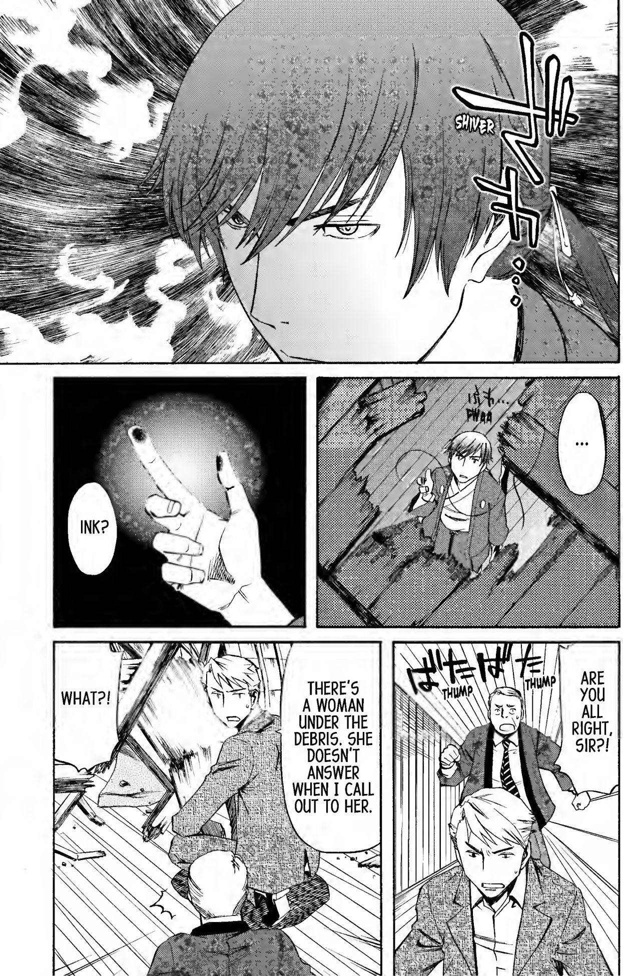

AS SOON AS I GOT HERE, I FOUND THE GUY I WAS LOOKING FOR...
...BUT IN A STATE RIGHT OUT OF A HORROR MOVIE.
IT MAY HAVE ALREADY LEFT THE PREMISES...
AN ANCIENT ONE?
PROBABLY.
HOW MANY GUESTS ARE STAYING HERE NOW?
THE INNKEEPER SAID THERE ARE TWO MEN HERE TO SEE ABOUT REPAIRING THE BRIDGE...
...AND THE WOMAN FROM JUST NOW.
OTHER THAN THAT, JUST THE INN'S STAFF.

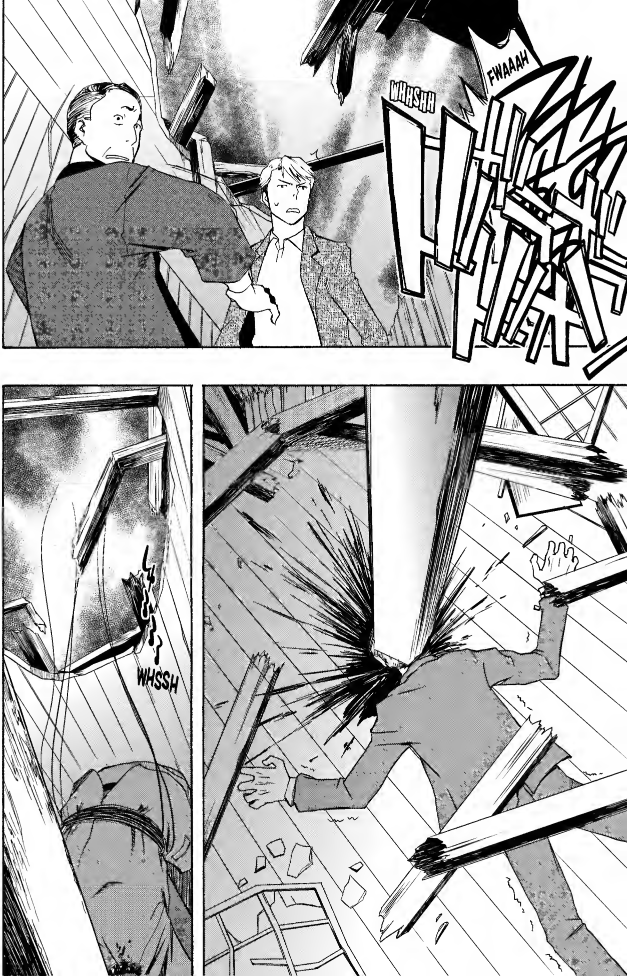

TELL THEM TO LEAVE RIGHT AWAY...
...BEFORE ANYONE ELSE GETS HURT.
AT THE SHRINE WHERE I'M STAYING, THE PRIEST GOT A LETTER FROM THE INNKEEPER HERE.
EVER SINCE THE BRIDGE WENT DOWN, HE'S BEEN HAVING THE SAME DREAM.
DREAM?
HE HEARS A VOICE WHISPERING, "FEED ME, FEED ME."
SO THAT'S WHAT HE WAS MUMBLING ABOUT...
THE INNKEEPER IS AN OLD FRIEND OF THE PRIEST'S...
...SO I WAS SENT TO INVESTIGATE.

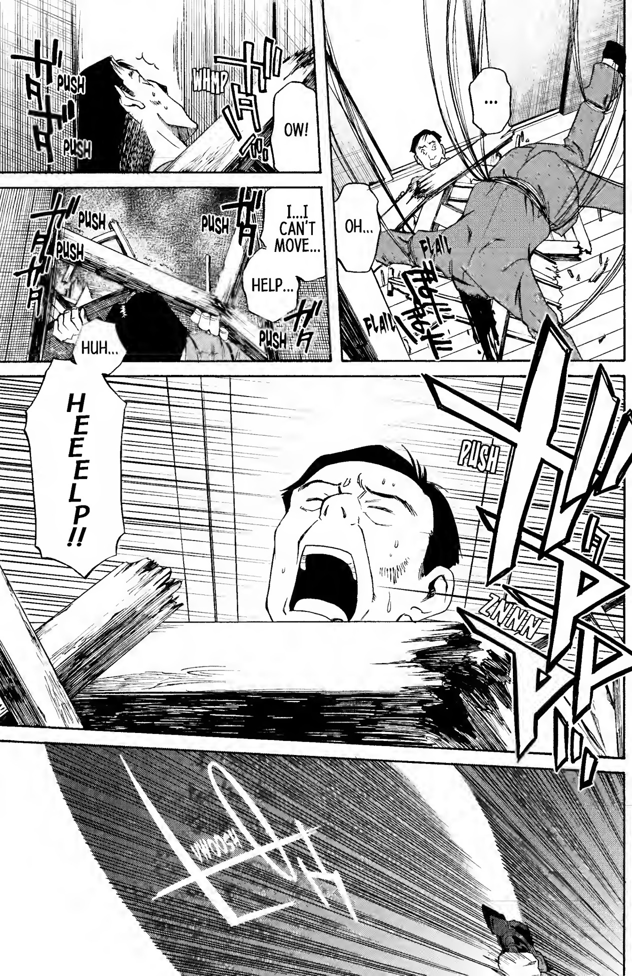

THEN I NOTICED THAT THE CORNERSTONE WAS MISSING FROM THIS LITTLE SHRINE, LEAVING AN OPENING...
AN OPENING? WHERE?
AN OPENING BETWEEN THIS REALM AND THE NEXT. YOU CAN'T SEE IT.
BUT YOU AN?
ドオン
BOOM
ガラガラ
CRUMBLE CRUMBLE
?!
WE'RE TOO LATE!

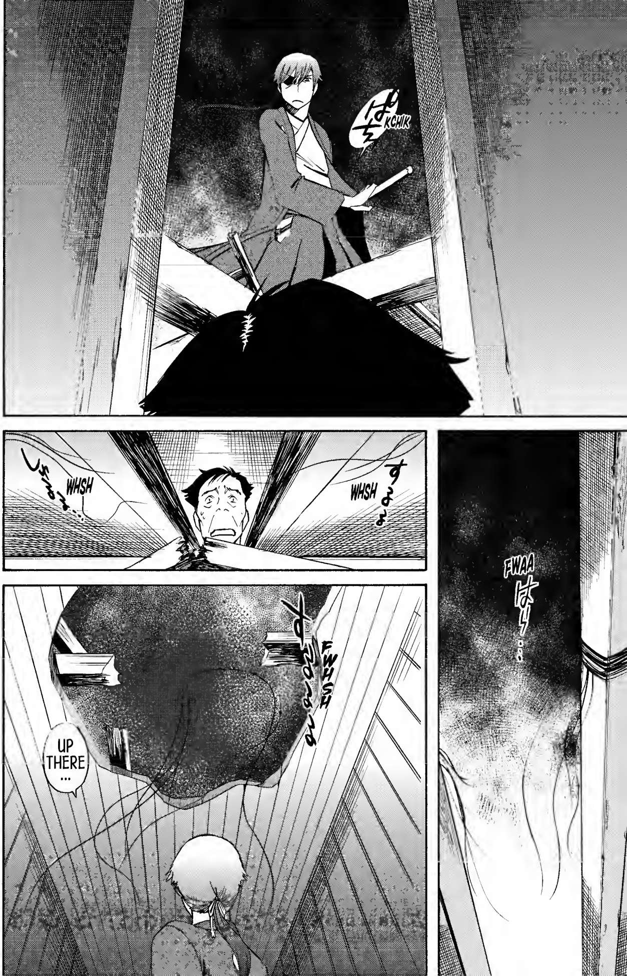

TMP
THMP
KRICK
KRICKAA
A YUKATA!
HEY!! IS THERE SOMEBODY THERE? ANSWER ME!
ANSWER ME!
HRRF!
TUG
TUG

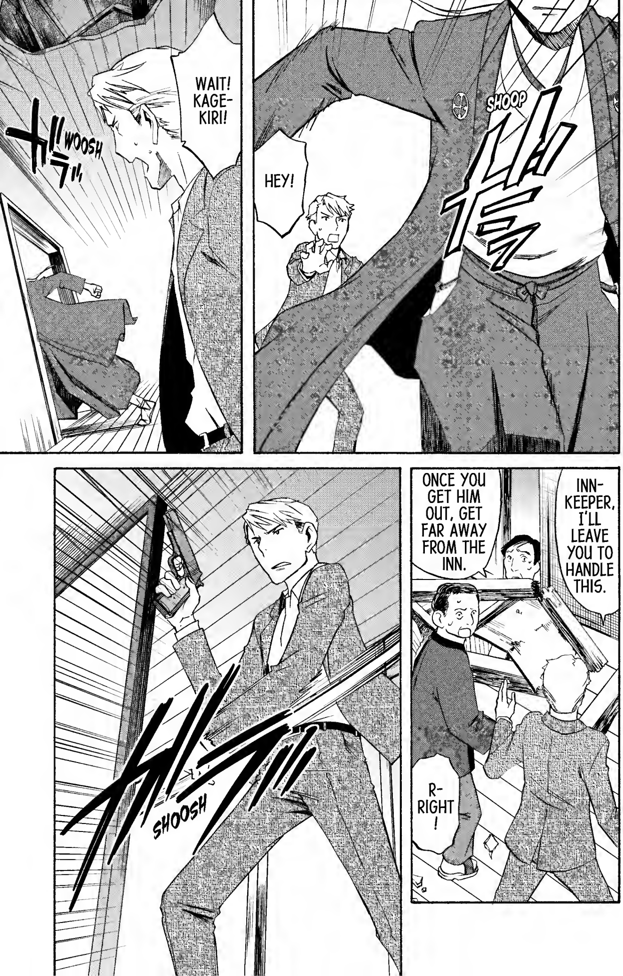
YUKATA: COTTON ROBE WORN AT HOT SPRING INNS.

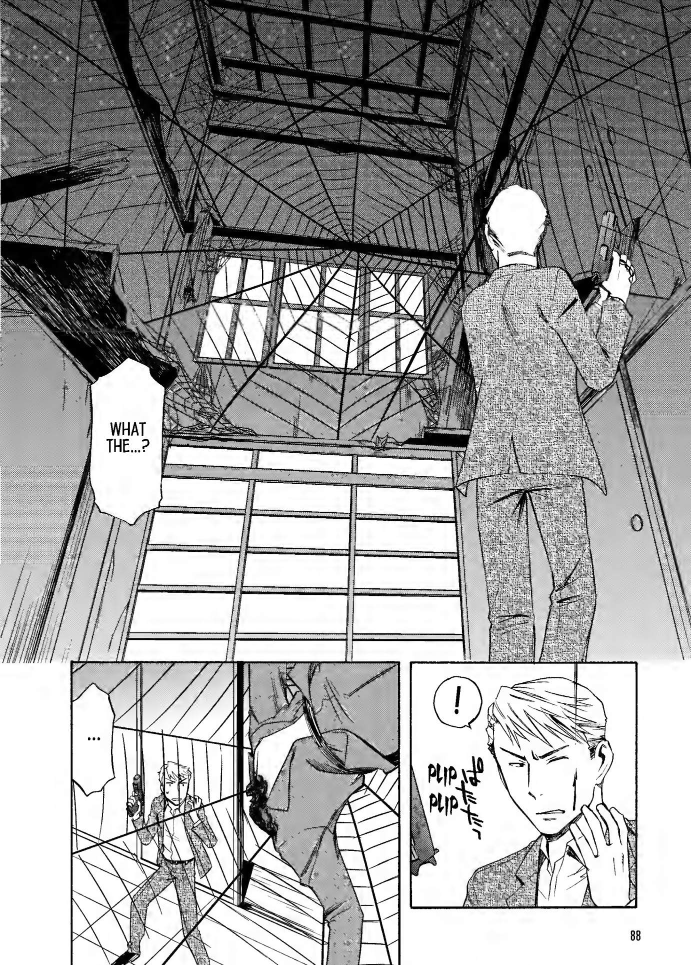

SHIVER
ぱわ…
FWAA
…
INK?
ばたばた
THUMP
THUMP
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIR?!
THERE'S A WOMAN UNDER THE DEBRIS. SHE DOESN'T ANSWER WHEN I CALL OUT TO HER.
WHAT?!

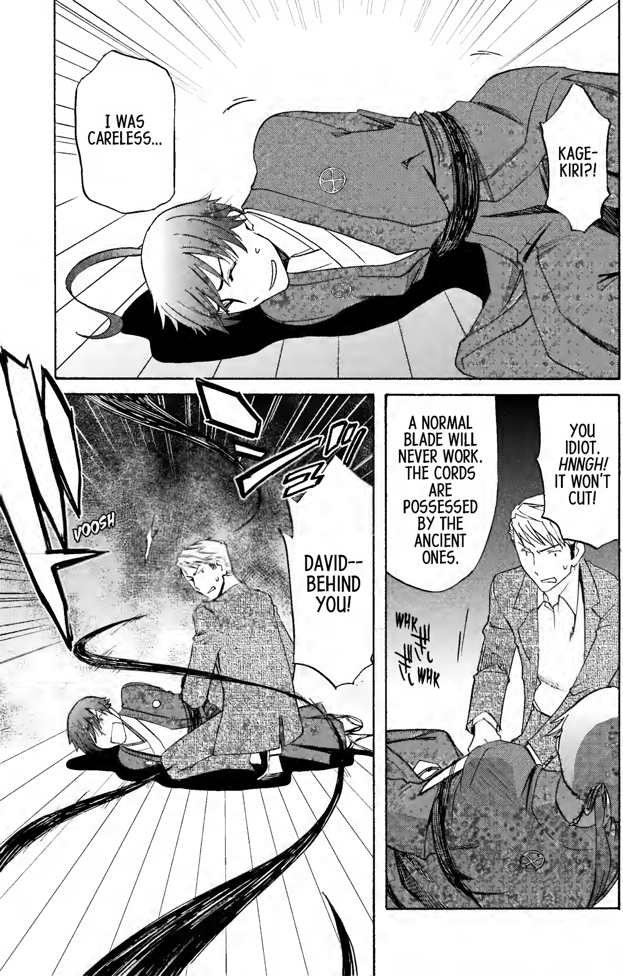

FWAAAH
WHHSHH
WHSSH

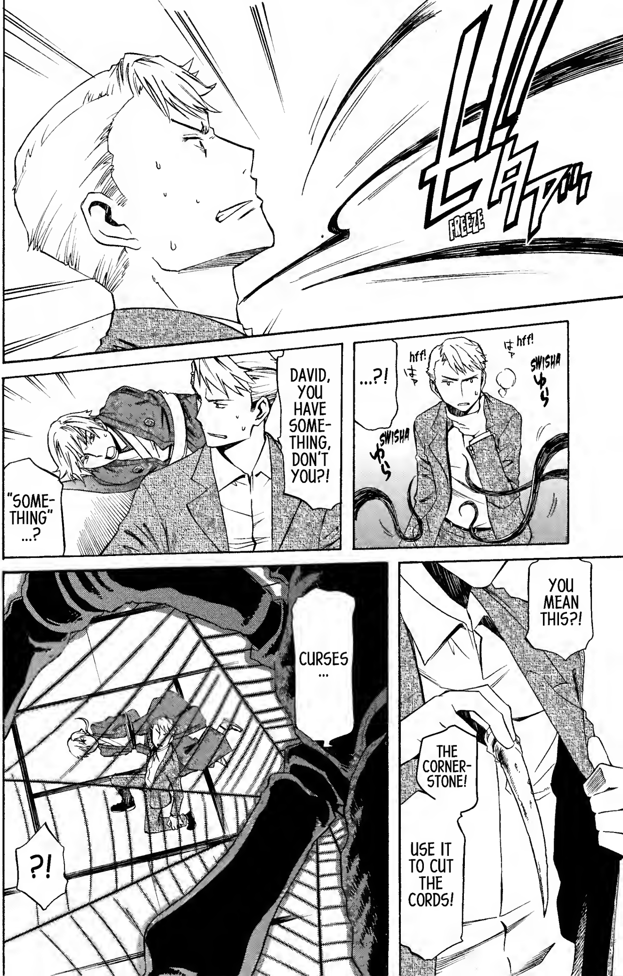

...
OH...
FLAIL
FLAIL
PUSH
PUSH
WHMP
OW!
PUSH
PUSH
PUSH
I...I CAN'T MOVE...
HELP...
PUSH
HUH...
HEEEELP!!
PUSH
ZNNN
WHOOSH

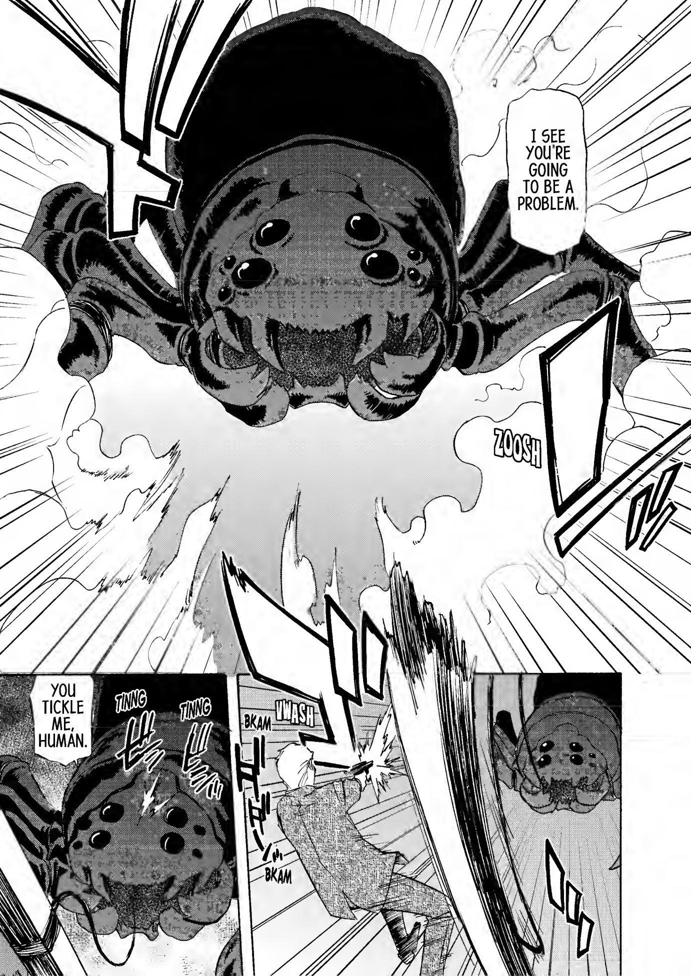

ぱちっ
KCHIK
FWAA
はら…
すゅるる
WHSH
しゅるる…
WHSH
するるる
FWHSH
UP THERE ...

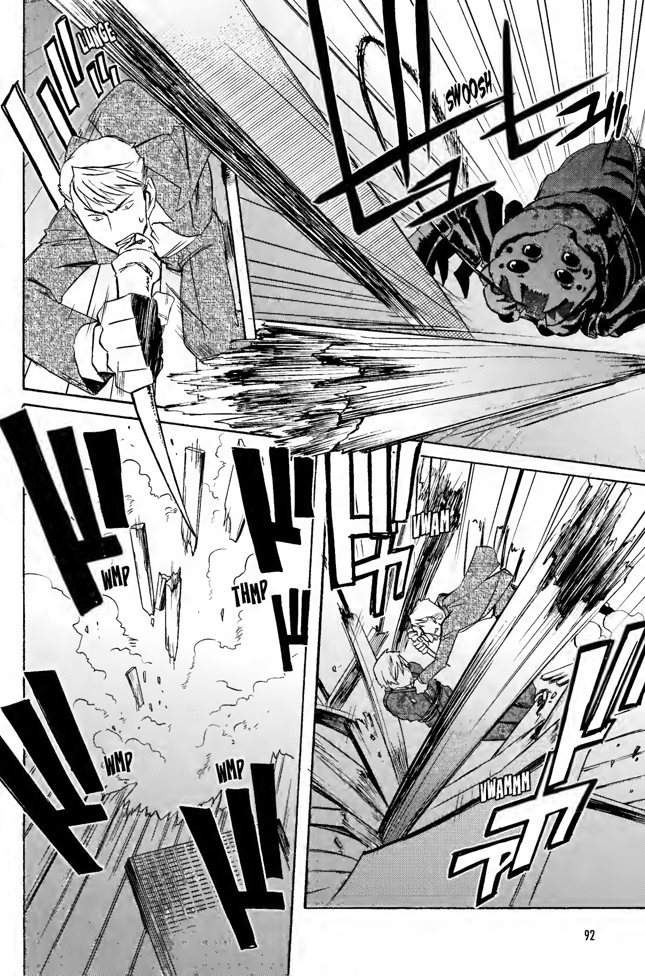

SHOOP
HEY!
WAIT! KAGE-KIRI!
WOOSH
INN-KEEPER, I'LL LEAVE YOU TO HANDLE THIS.
ONCE YOU GET HIM OUT, GET FAR AWAY FROM THE INN.
R-RIGHT!
SHOOSH

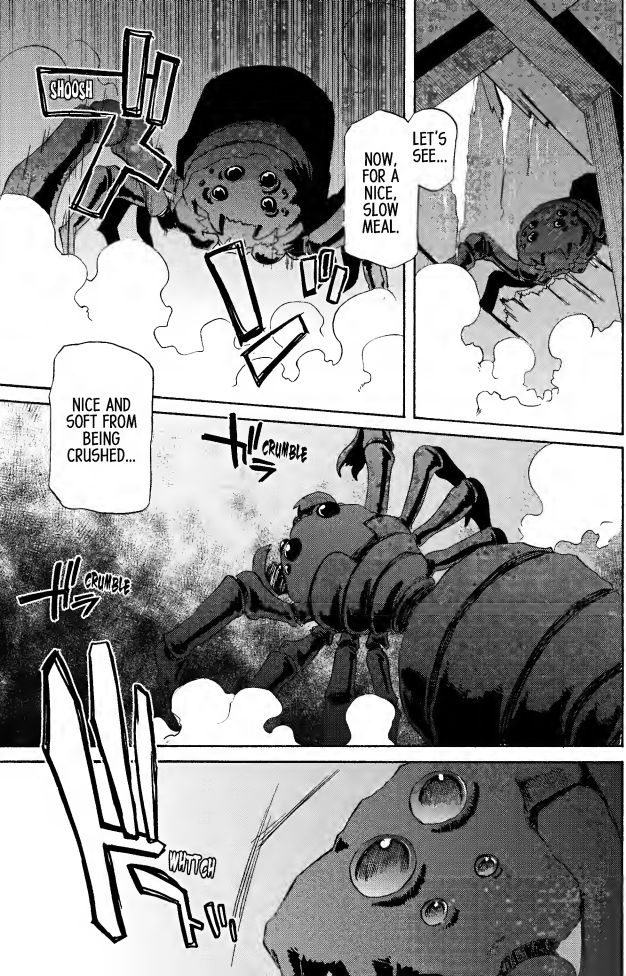

WHAT THE...?
!
PLIP
PLIP
...

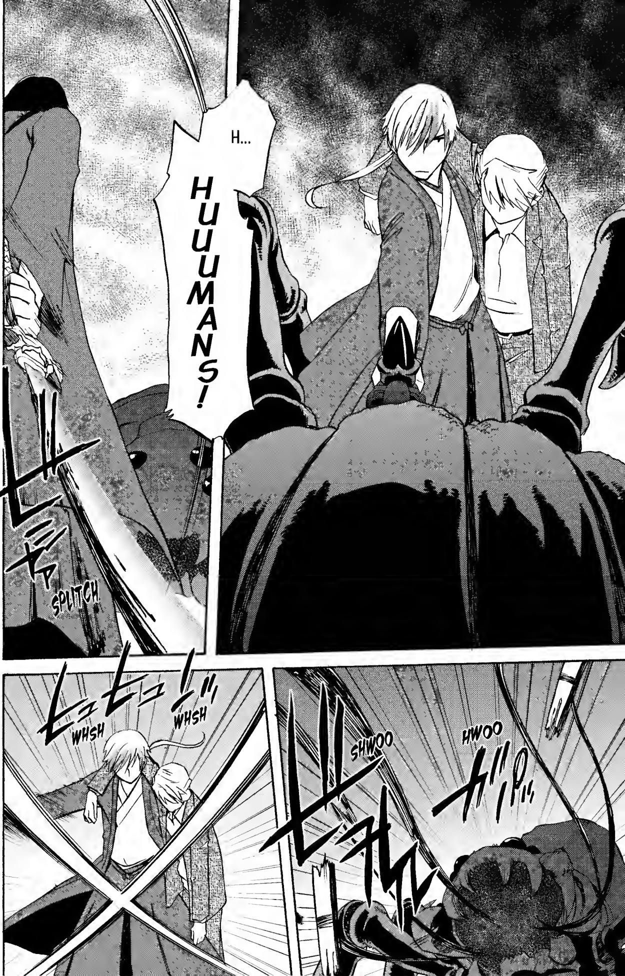

KAGE-KIRI?!
I WAS CARELESS...
YOU IDIOT. *HNNGH!* IT WON'T CUT!
A NORMAL BLADE WILL NEVER WORK. THE CORDS ARE POSSESSED BY THE ANCIENT ONES.
WHK WHK
DAVID-- BEHIND YOU!
VOOSH

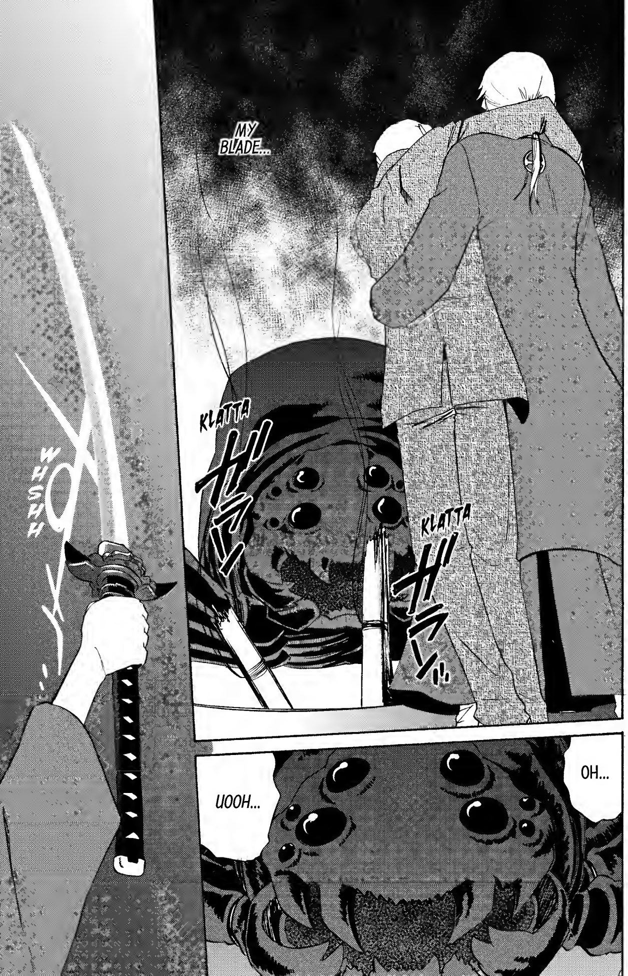

ビタァッ
FREEZE
...?!
hff!
は
hff!
は
SWISHA
ゆら
SWISHA
ゆら
DAVID, YOU HAVE SOMETHING, DON'T YOU?!
"SOMETHING" ...?
YOU MEAN THIS?!
THE CORNERSTONE!
USE IT TO CUT THE CORDS!
CURSES ...
?!

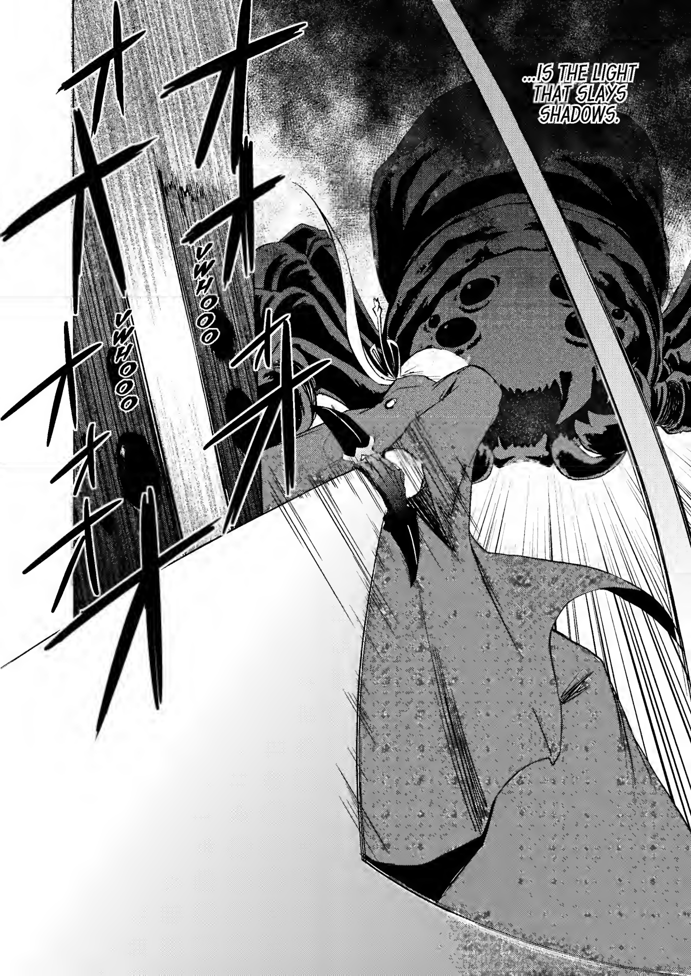

I SEE YOU'RE GOING TO BE A PROBLEM.
ZOOSH
VWASH
BKAM
BKAM
TINNG
TINNG
YOU TICKLE ME, HUMAN.

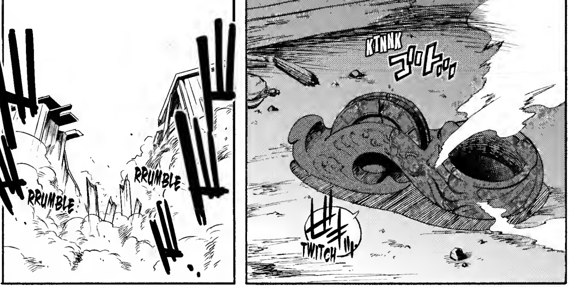

SWOOSH
LUNGE
WMP
THMP
VWAM
WMP
WMP
VWAMMM

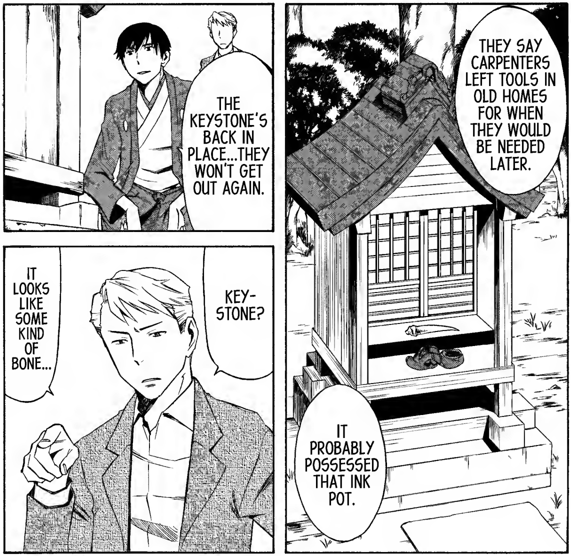

LET'S SEE... NOW, FOR A NICE, SLOW MEAL.
SHOOSH
NICE AND SOFT FROM BEING CRUSHED...
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
WHTTCH

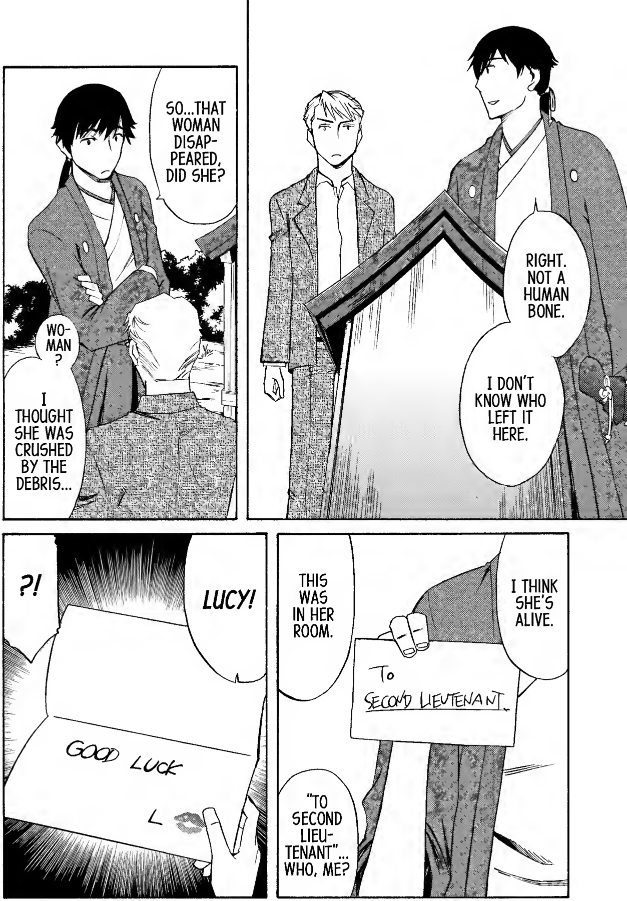

H...
HUUUMANS!
SPLITCH
HWOO
SHWOO
WHSH
WHSH

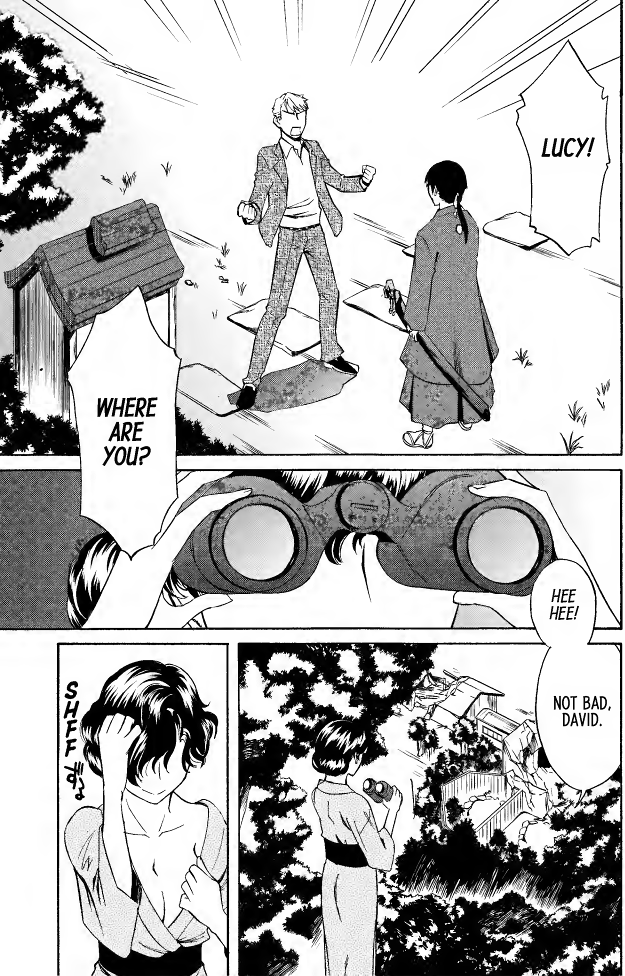

MY BLADE...
KLATTA
ガラン
KLATTA
ガラン
OH...
UOOH...
WHSHH

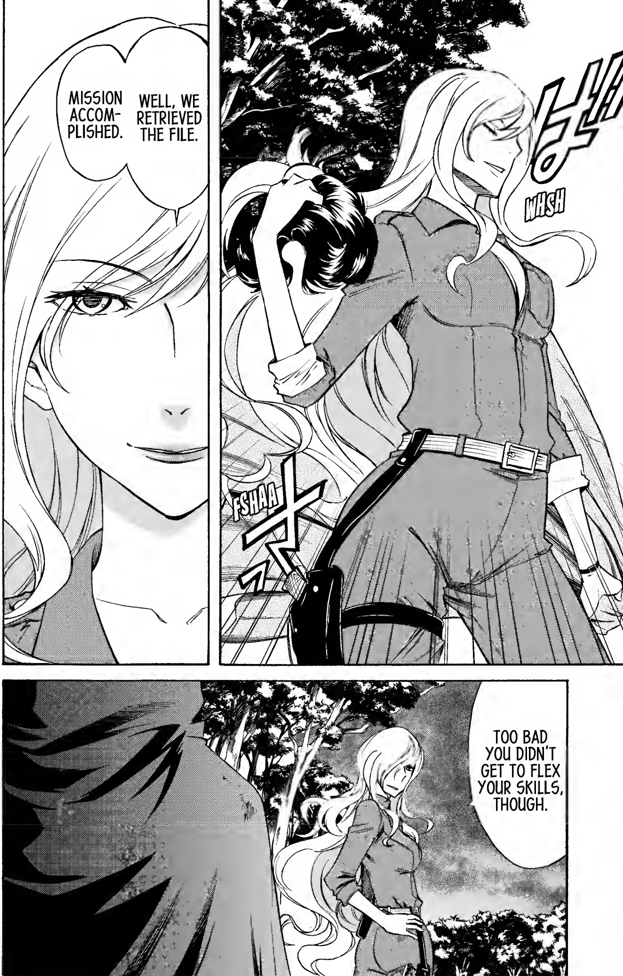

...IS THE LIGHT THAT SLAYS SHADOWS.
オオオ
VWHOOO
VWHOOO
オオオオオオ

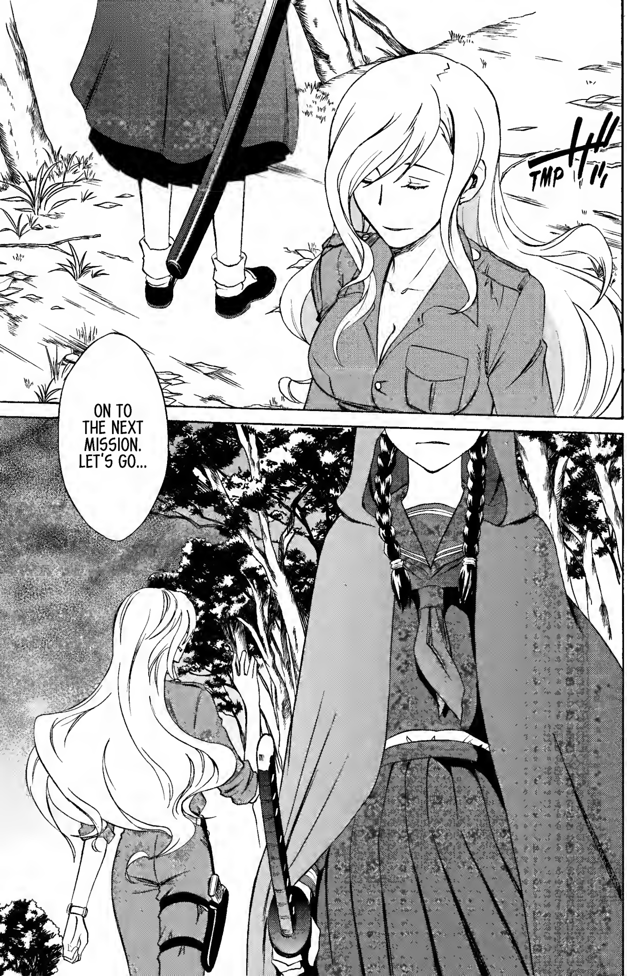

KTNNK
TWITCH
RRUMBLE
RRUMBLE

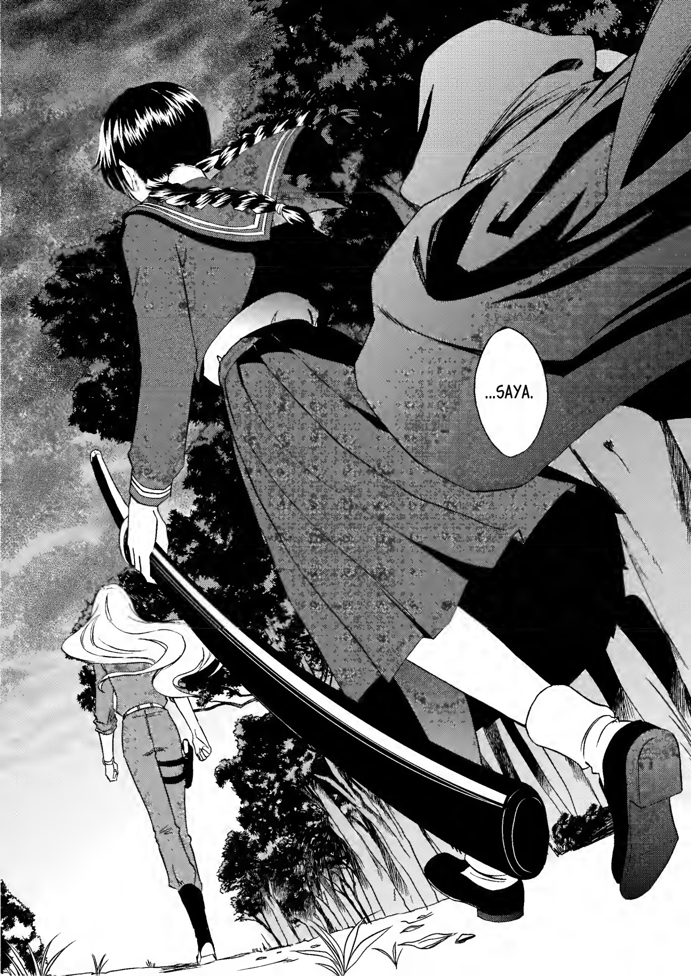

THE KEYSTONE'S BACK IN PLACE...THEY WON'T GET OUT AGAIN.
KEY-STONE?
IT LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF BONE...
THEY SAY CARPENTERS LEFT TOOLS IN OLD HOMES FOR WHEN THEY WOULD BE NEEDED LATER.
IT PROBABLY POSSESSED THAT INK POT.


RIGHT. NOT A HUMAN BONE.
I DON'T KNOW WHO LEFT IT HERE.
SO...THAT WOMAN DISAPPEARED, DID SHE?
WOMAN?
I THOUGHT SHE WAS CRUSHED BY THE DEBRIS...
I THINK SHE'S ALIVE.
THIS WAS IN HER ROOM.
To SECOND LIEUTENANT.
"TO SECOND LIEUTENANT"... WHO, ME?
LUCY!
?!
GOOD LUCK
L


LUCY!
WHERE ARE YOU?
HEE HEE!
NOT BAD, DAVID.
SHFF ずる

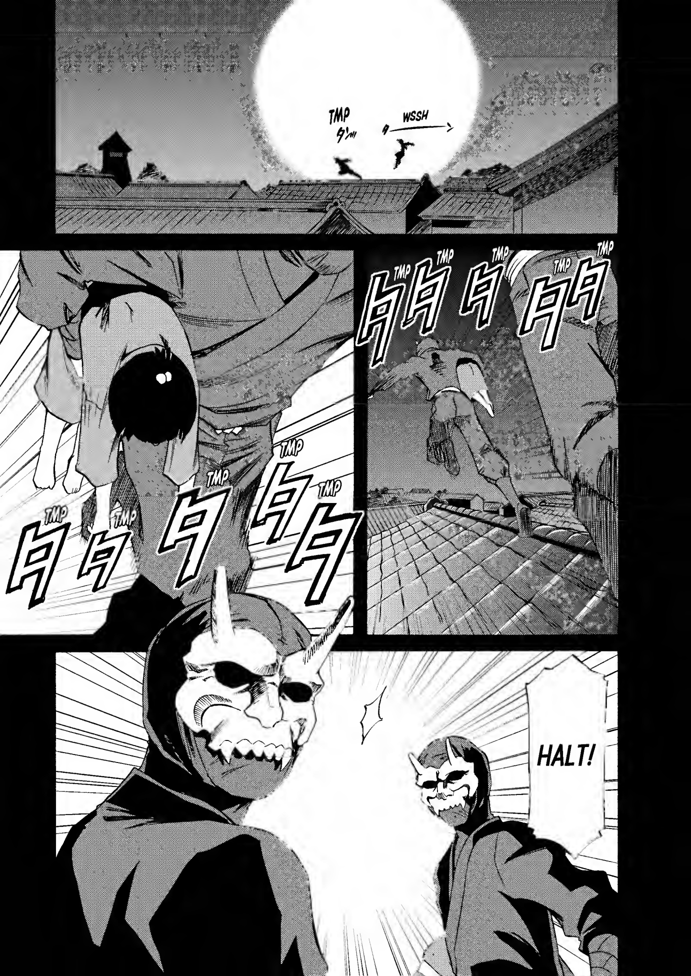

ば
WHSH
FSHAA
WELL, WE RETRIEVED THE FILE.
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.
TOO BAD YOU DIDN'T GET TO FLEX YOUR SKILLS, THOUGH.

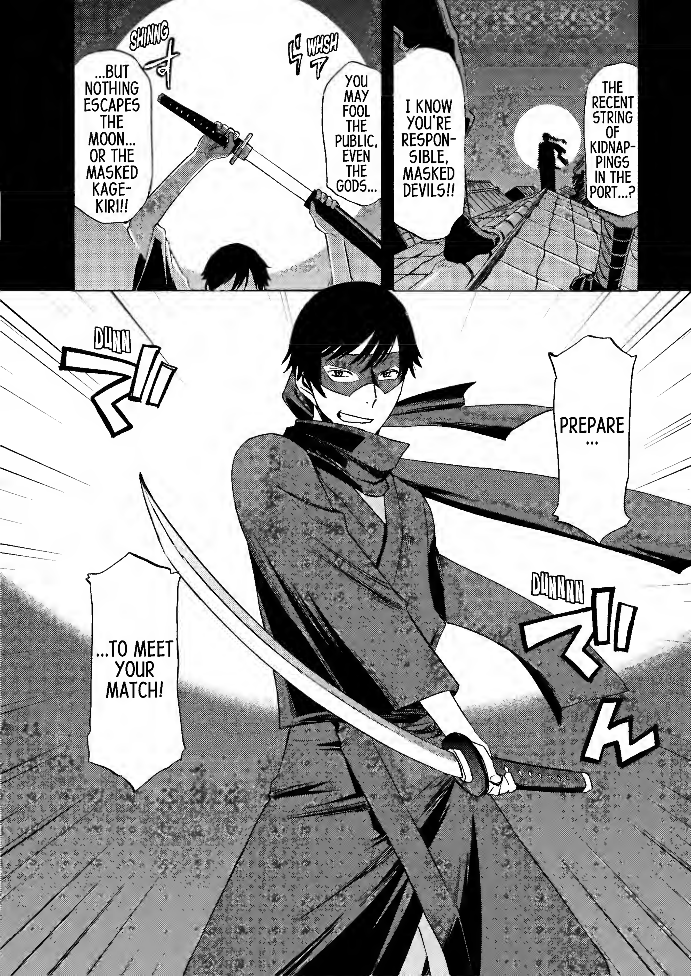

TMP
ON TO THE NEXT MISSION. LET'S GO...


...SAYA.

十六夜鬼譚

BLOOD-C
DEMONIC
MOONLIGHT


WSSH
タ
TMP
タッ
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
タタタ タタ
TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP
タタタタタ
HALT!


THE RECENT STRING OF KIDNAPPINGS IN THE PORT...?
I KNOW YOU'RE RESPONSIBLE, MASKED DEVILS!!
WHSH
YOU MAY FOOL THE PUBLIC, EVEN THE GODS...
SHINNG
...BUT NOTHING ESCAPES THE MOON... OR THE MASKED KAGE-KIRI!!
PREPARE...
DUNN
...TO MEET YOUR MATCH!
DUNNNN

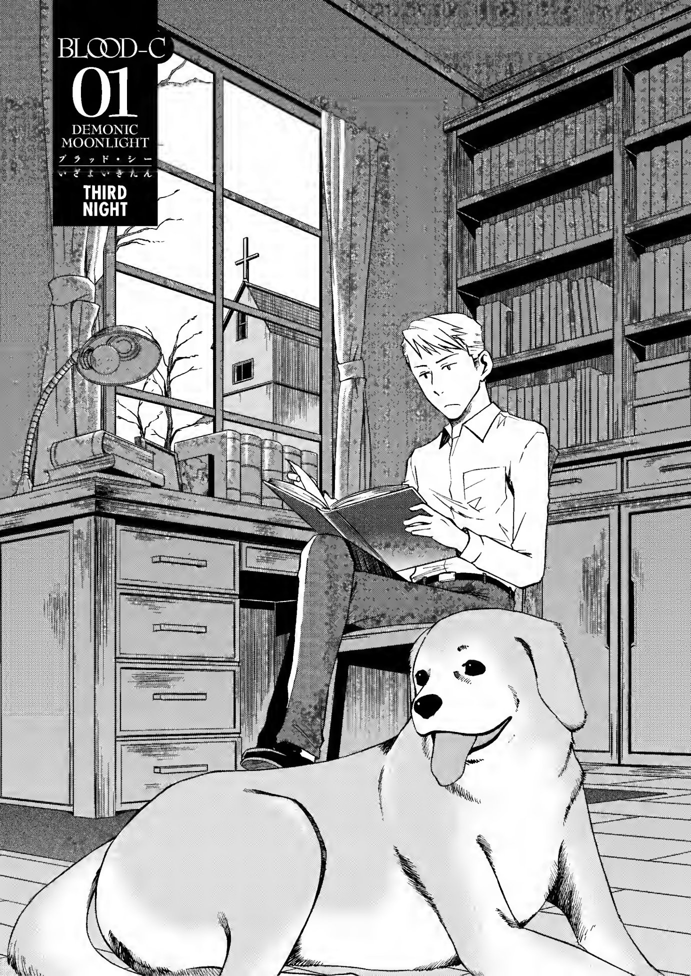
BLOOD-C

01

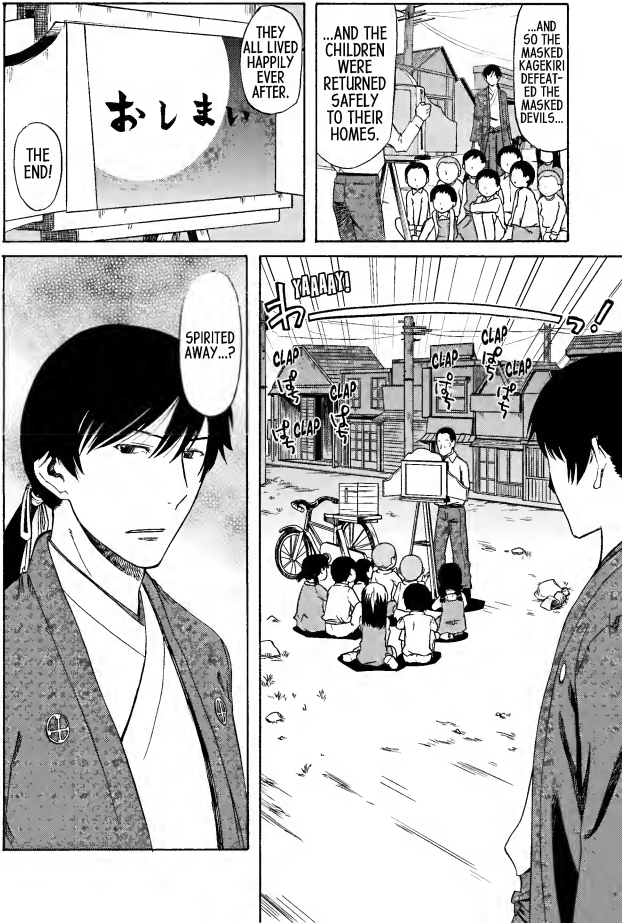
DEMONIC MOONLIGHT

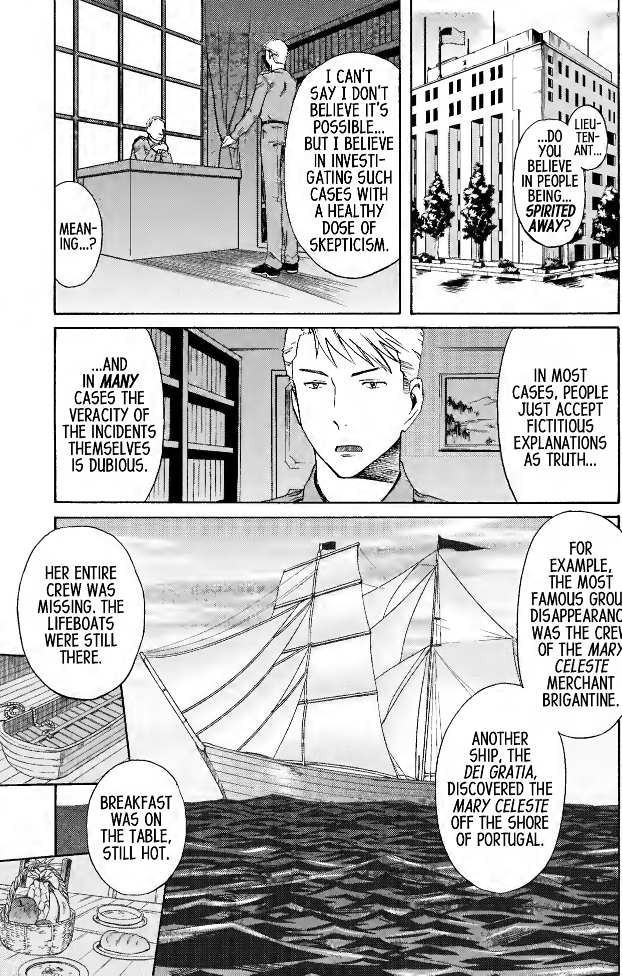
ブラッド・シー
いざよいきたん

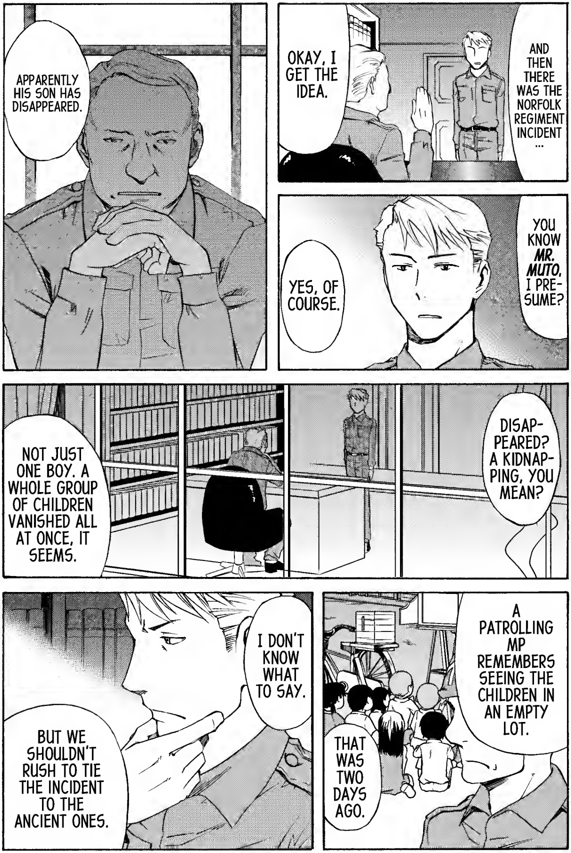
THIRD NIGHT

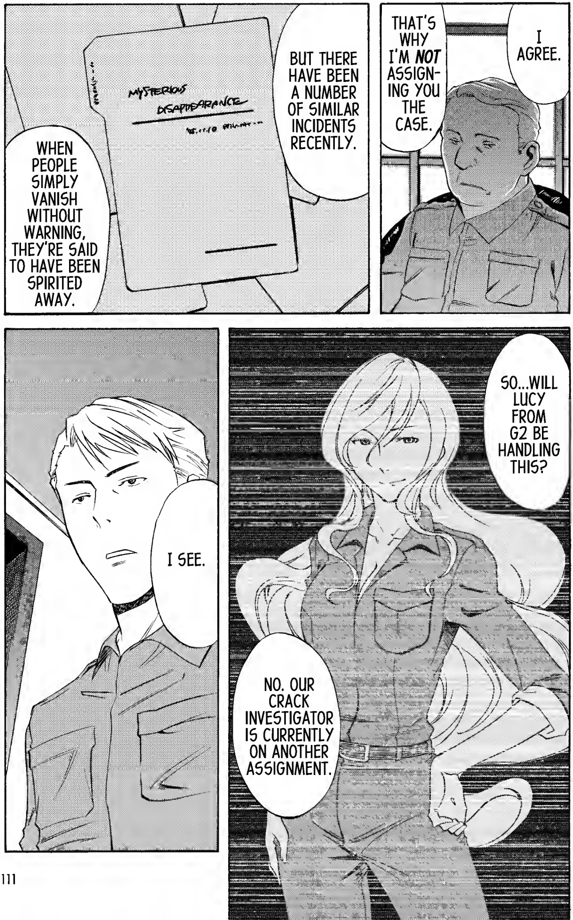


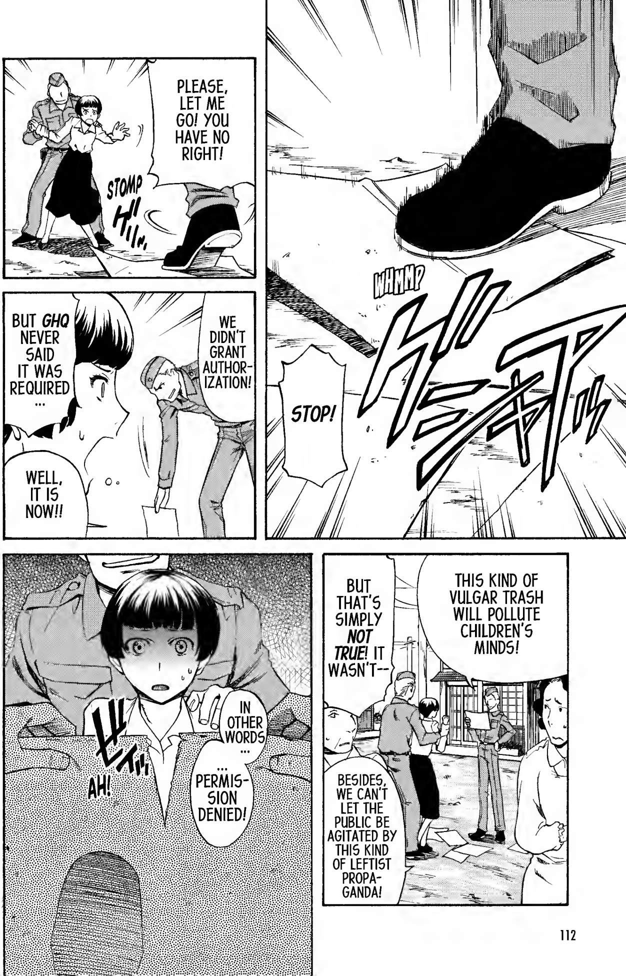
CURTAIN: THE END

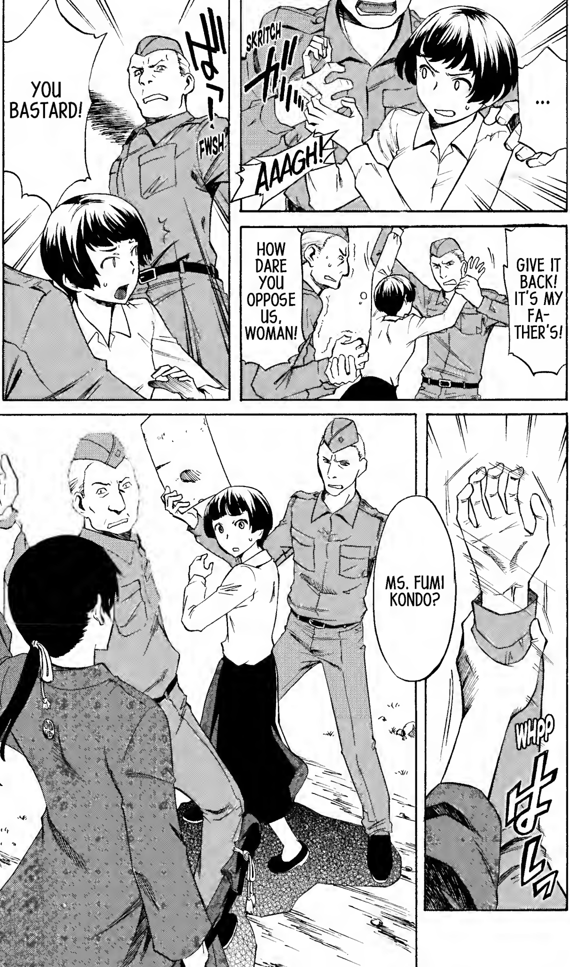

...AND SO THE MASKED KAGEKIRI DEFEATED THE MASKED DEVILS...
...AND THE CHILDREN WERE RETURNED SAFELY TO THEIR HOMES.
THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
おしまい
THE END!
わーーっ!
YAAAAY!
CLAP ぱち
CLAP ぱち
CLAP ぱち
CLAP ぱち
CLAP ぱち
CLAP ぱち
SPIRITED AWAY...?

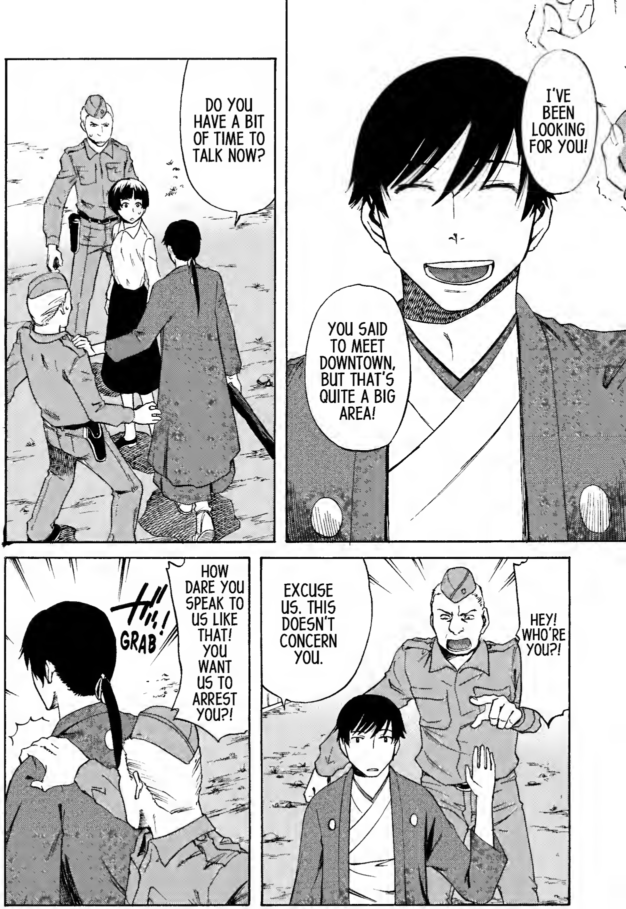

LIEUTENANT...
...DO YOU BELIEVE IN PEOPLE BEING... *SPIRITED AWAY*?
I CAN'T SAY I DON'T BELIEVE IT'S POSSIBLE... BUT I BELIEVE IN INVESTIGATING SUCH CASES WITH A HEALTHY DOSE OF SKEPTICISM.
MEANING...?
IN MOST CASES, PEOPLE JUST ACCEPT FICTITIOUS EXPLANATIONS AS TRUTH...
...AND IN *MANY* CASES THE VERACITY OF THE INCIDENTS THEMSELVES IS DUBIOUS.
FOR EXAMPLE, THE MOST FAMOUS GROUP DISAPPEARANCE WAS THE CREW OF THE *MARY CELESTE* MERCHANT BRIGANTINE.
ANOTHER SHIP, THE *DEI GRATIA*, DISCOVERED THE *MARY CELESTE* OFF THE SHORE OF PORTUGAL.
HER ENTIRE CREW WAS MISSING. THE LIFEBOATS WERE STILL THERE.
BREAKFAST WAS ON THE TABLE, STILL HOT.

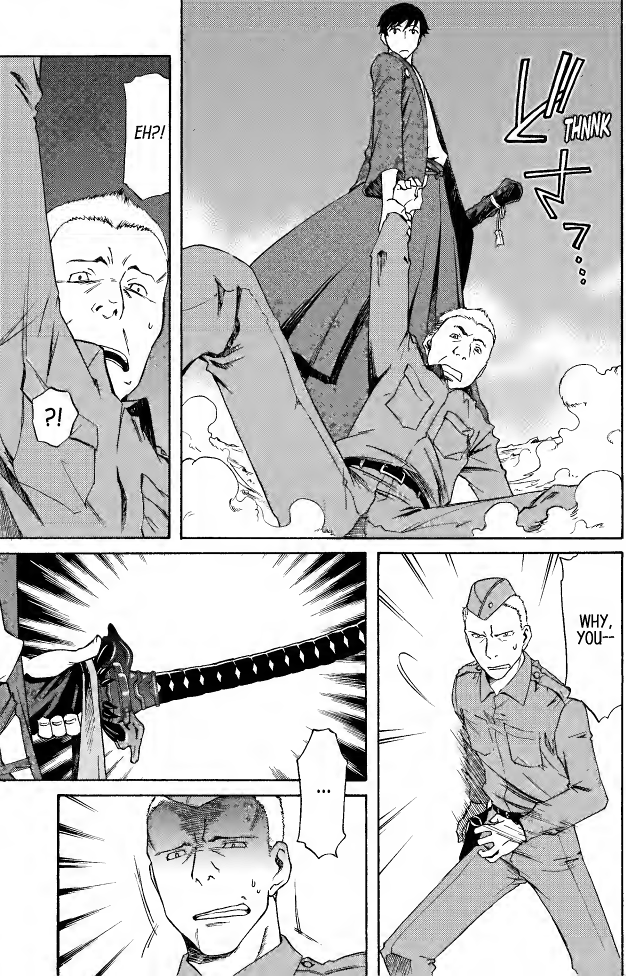

AND THEN THERE WAS THE NORFOLK REGIMENT INCIDENT ...
OKAY, I GET THE IDEA.
YOU KNOW ***MR. MUTO,*** I PRESUME?
YES, OF COURSE.
APPARENTLY HIS SON HAS DISAPPEARED.
DISAPPEARED? A KIDNAPPING, YOU MEAN?
NOT JUST ONE BOY. A WHOLE GROUP OF CHILDREN VANISHED ALL AT ONCE, IT SEEMS.
A PATROLLING MP REMEMBERS SEEING THE CHILDREN IN AN EMPTY LOT.
THAT WAS TWO DAYS AGO.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.
BUT WE SHOULDN'T RUSH TO TIE THE INCIDENT TO THE ANCIENT ONES.

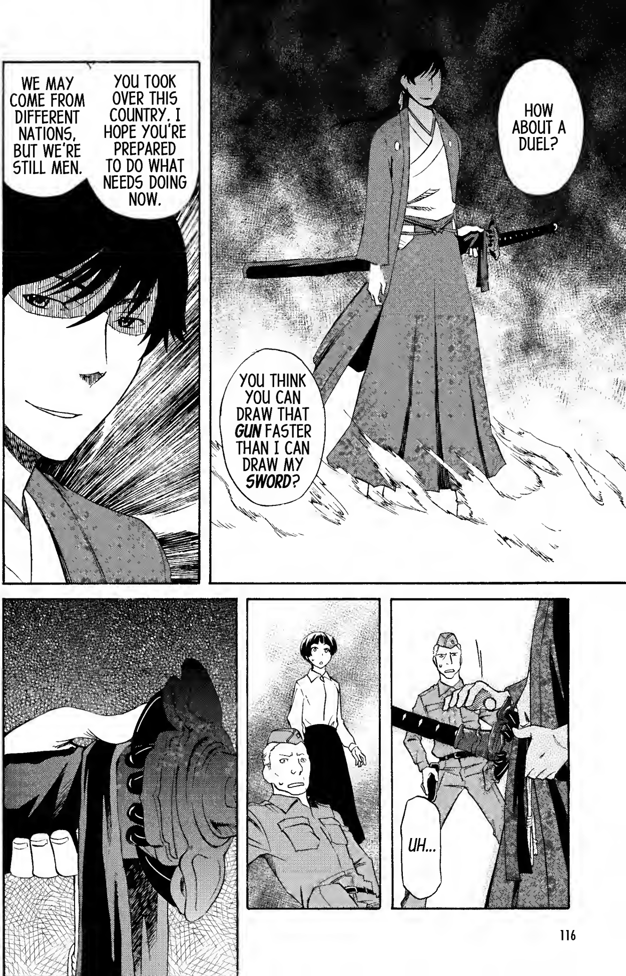

I AGREE.
THAT'S WHY I'M *NOT* ASSIGNING YOU THE CASE.
BUT THERE HAVE BEEN A NUMBER OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS RECENTLY.
MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE
WHEN PEOPLE SIMPLY VANISH WITHOUT WARNING, THEY'RE SAID TO HAVE BEEN SPIRITED AWAY.
SO...WILL LUCY FROM G2 BE HANDLING THIS?
NO. OUR CRACK INVESTIGATOR IS CURRENTLY ON ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT.
I SEE.

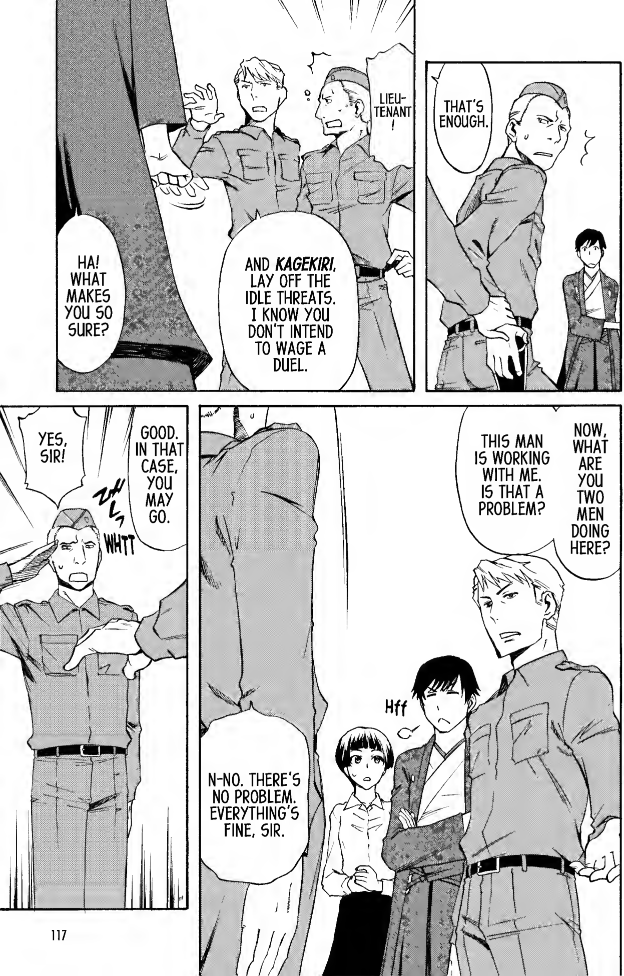

WHMMP
STOP!
PLEASE, LET ME GO! YOU HAVE NO RIGHT!
STOMP
WE DIDN'T GRANT AUTHORIZATION!
BUT *GHQ* NEVER SAID IT WAS REQUIRED ...
WELL, IT IS NOW!!
THIS KIND OF VULGAR TRASH WILL POLLUTE CHILDREN'S MINDS!
BUT THAT'S SIMPLY ***NOT TRUE***! IT WASN'T--
BESIDES, WE CAN'T LET THE PUBLIC BE AGITATED BY THIS KIND OF LEFTIST PROPAGANDA!
IN OTHER WORDS ...
... PERMISSION DENIED!
AH!

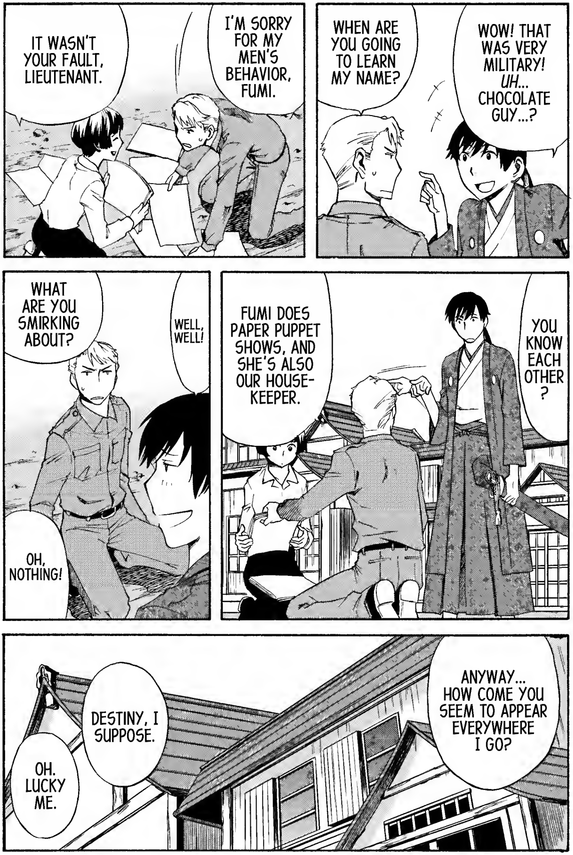

SKRITCH
ガリ
AAAGH!
...
YOU BASTARD!
ぶぉー!
FWSH
GIVE IT BACK! IT'S MY FATHER'S!
HOW DARE YOU OPPOSE US, WOMAN!
WHPP
はしっ
MS. FUMI KONDO?

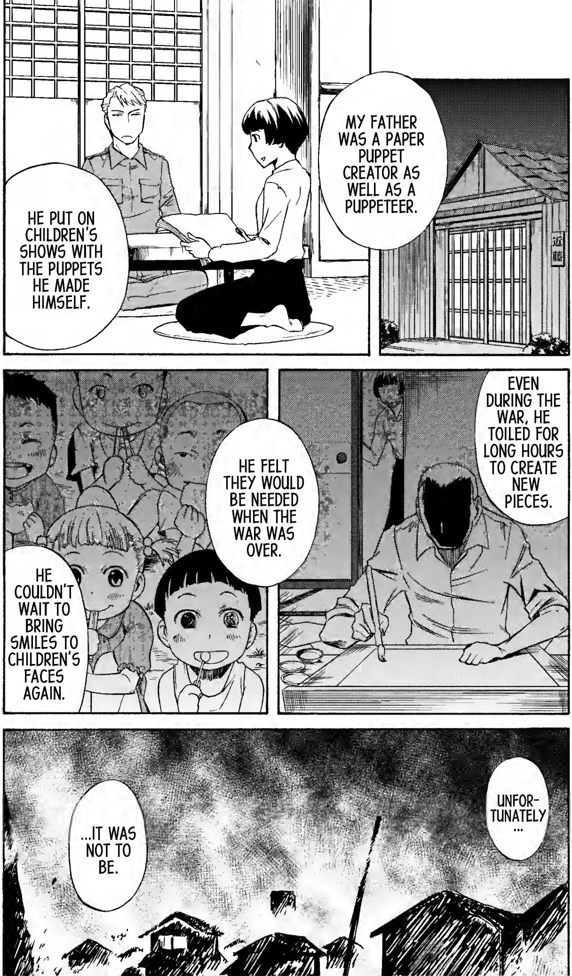

I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU!
YOU SAID TO MEET DOWNTOWN, BUT THAT'S QUITE A BIG AREA!
DO YOU HAVE A BIT OF TIME TO TALK NOW?
HEY! WHO'RE YOU?!
EXCUSE US. THIS DOESN'T CONCERN YOU.
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO US LIKE THAT! YOU WANT US TO ARREST YOU?!
GRAB

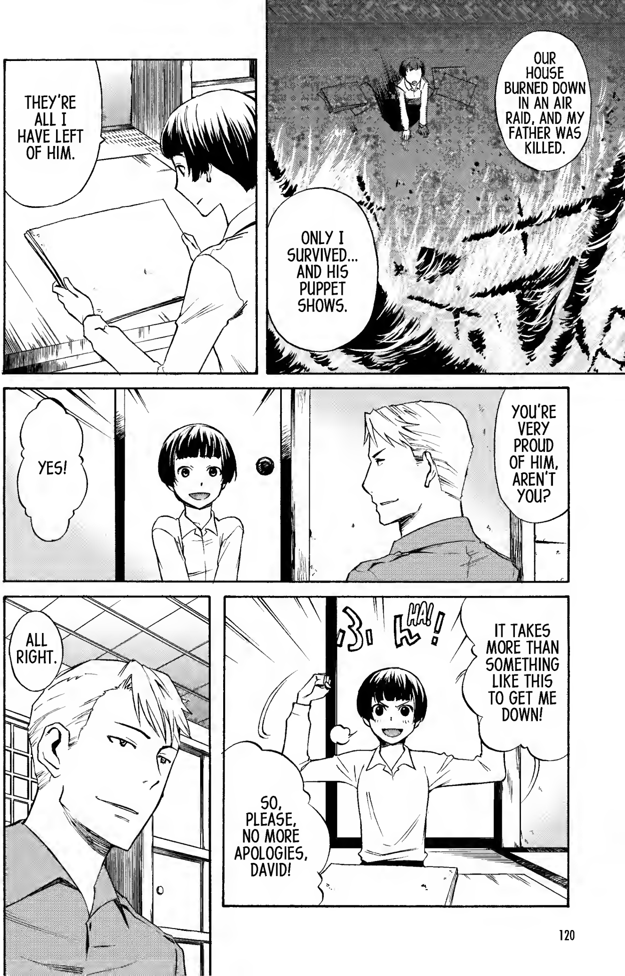

どさっ
THNNK
EH?!
?!
WHY, YOU--
...

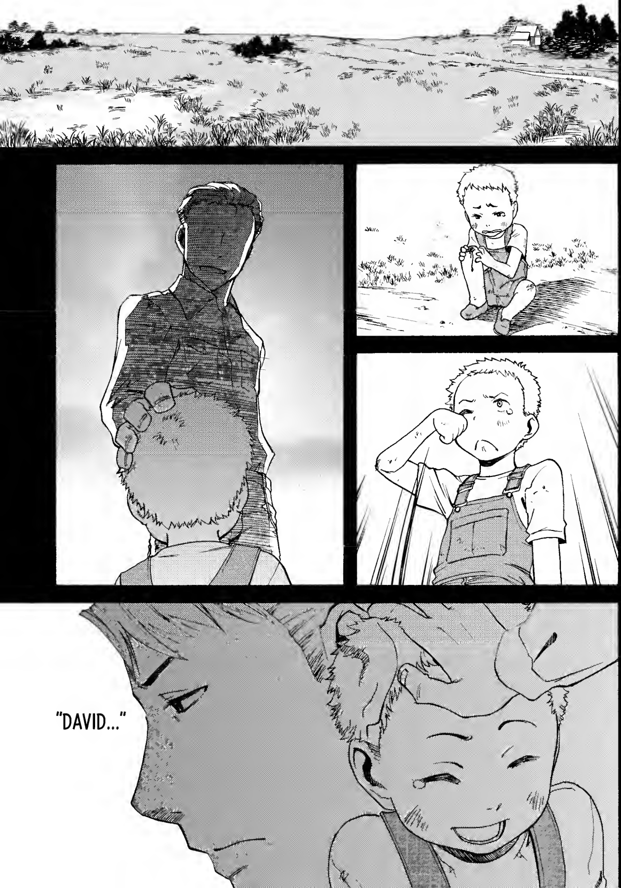

HOW ABOUT A DUEL?
YOU THINK YOU CAN DRAW THAT *GUN* FASTER THAN I CAN DRAW MY *SWORD*?
YOU TOOK OVER THIS COUNTRY. I HOPE YOU'RE PREPARED TO DO WHAT NEEDS DOING NOW.
WE MAY COME FROM DIFFERENT NATIONS, BUT WE'RE STILL MEN.
UH...

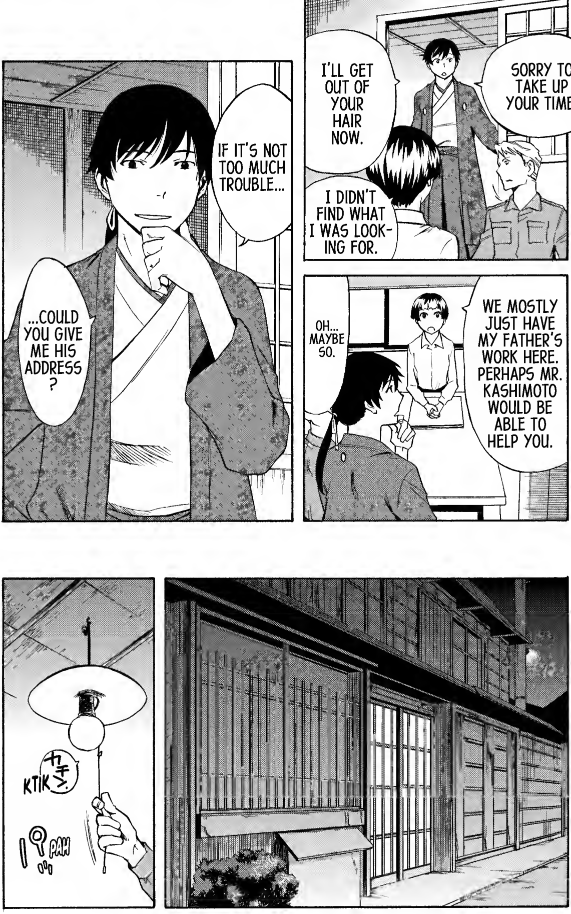

THAT'S ENOUGH.
LIEU-TENANT!
AND KAGEKIRI, LAY OFF THE IDLE THREATS. I KNOW YOU DON'T INTEND TO WAGE A DUEL.
HA! WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE?
NOW, WHAT ARE YOU TWO MEN DOING HERE?
THIS MAN IS WORKING WITH ME. IS THAT A PROBLEM?
Hff
N-NO. THERE'S NO PROBLEM. EVERYTHING'S FINE, SIR.
GOOD. IN THAT CASE, YOU MAY GO.
YES, SIR!
WHTT

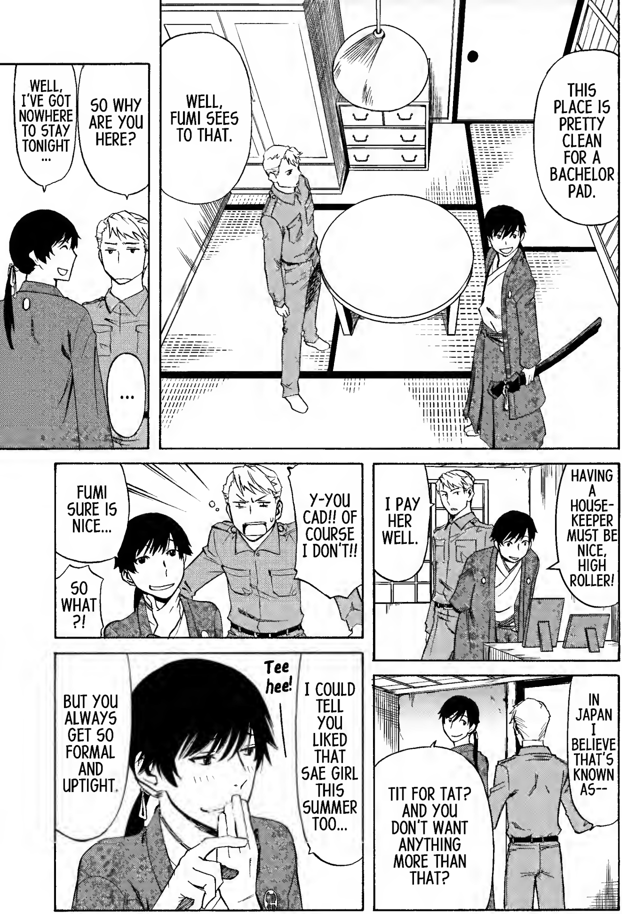

WOW! THAT WAS VERY MILITARY! *UH*... CHOCOLATE GUY...?
WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO LEARN MY NAME?
I'M SORRY FOR MY MEN'S BEHAVIOR, FUMI.
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT, LIEUTENANT.
YOU KNOW EACH OTHER?
FUMI DOES PAPER PUPPET SHOWS, AND SHE'S ALSO OUR HOUSEKEEPER.
WELL, WELL!
WHAT ARE YOU SMIRKING ABOUT?
OH, NOTHING!
ANYWAY... HOW COME YOU SEEM TO APPEAR EVERYWHERE I GO?
DESTINY, I SUPPOSE.
OH. LUCKY ME.

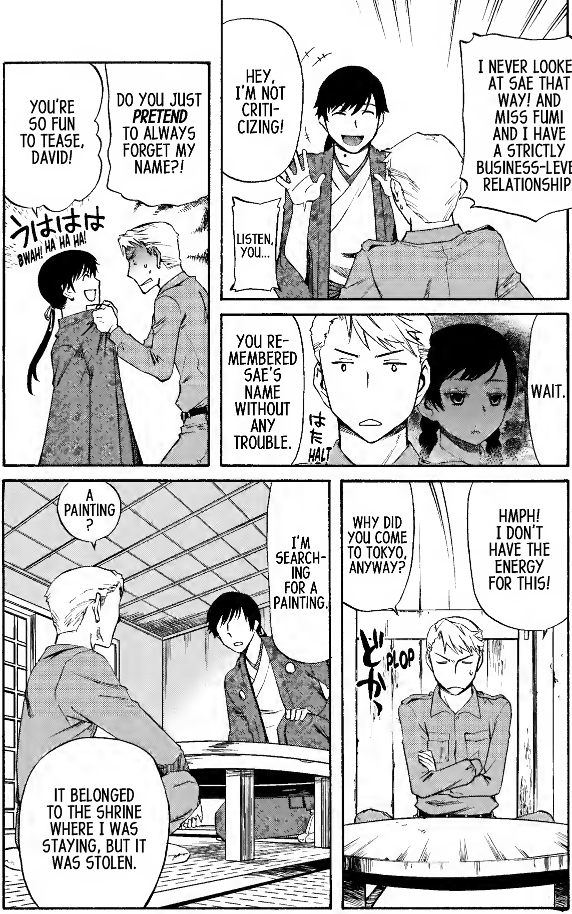

MY FATHER WAS A PAPER PUPPET CREATOR AS WELL AS A PUPPETEER.
近藤
HE PUT ON CHILDREN'S SHOWS WITH THE PUPPETS HE MADE HIMSELF.
EVEN DURING THE WAR, HE TOILED FOR LONG HOURS TO CREATE NEW PIECES.
HE FELT THEY WOULD BE NEEDED WHEN THE WAR WAS OVER.
HE COULDN'T WAIT TO BRING SMILES TO CHILDREN'S FACES AGAIN.
UNFORTUNATELY...
...IT WAS NOT TO BE.

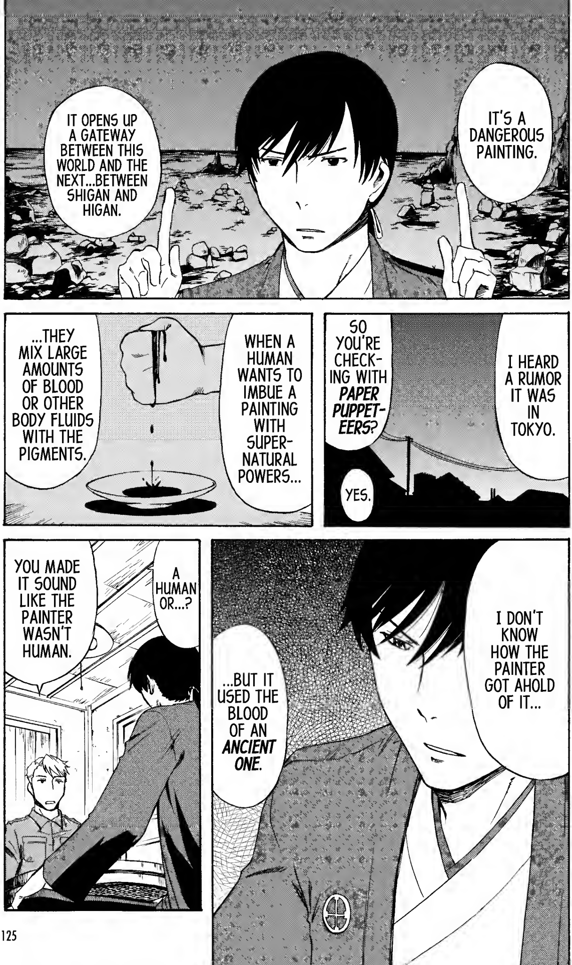

OUR HOUSE BURNED DOWN IN AN AIR RAID, AND MY FATHER WAS KILLED.
ONLY I SURVIVED... AND HIS PUPPET SHOWS.
THEY'RE ALL I HAVE LEFT OF HIM.
YOU'RE VERY PROUD OF HIM, AREN'T YOU?
YES!
HA!
IT TAKES MORE THAN SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO GET ME DOWN!
SO, PLEASE, NO MORE APOLOGIES, DAVID!
ALL RIGHT.

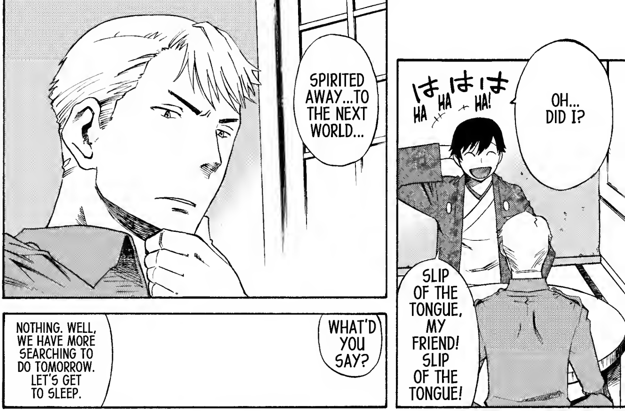

"DAVID..."

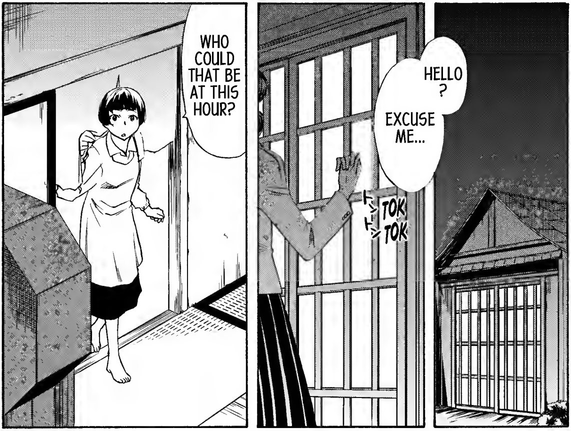

SORRY TO TAKE UP YOUR TIME.
I'LL GET OUT OF YOUR HAIR NOW.
I DIDN'T FIND WHAT I WAS LOOKING FOR.
WE MOSTLY JUST HAVE MY FATHER'S WORK HERE. PERHAPS MR. KASHIMOTO WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.
OH... MAYBE SO.
IF IT'S NOT TOO MUCH TROUBLE...
...COULD YOU GIVE ME HIS ADDRESS?
カチン
KTIK
PAH

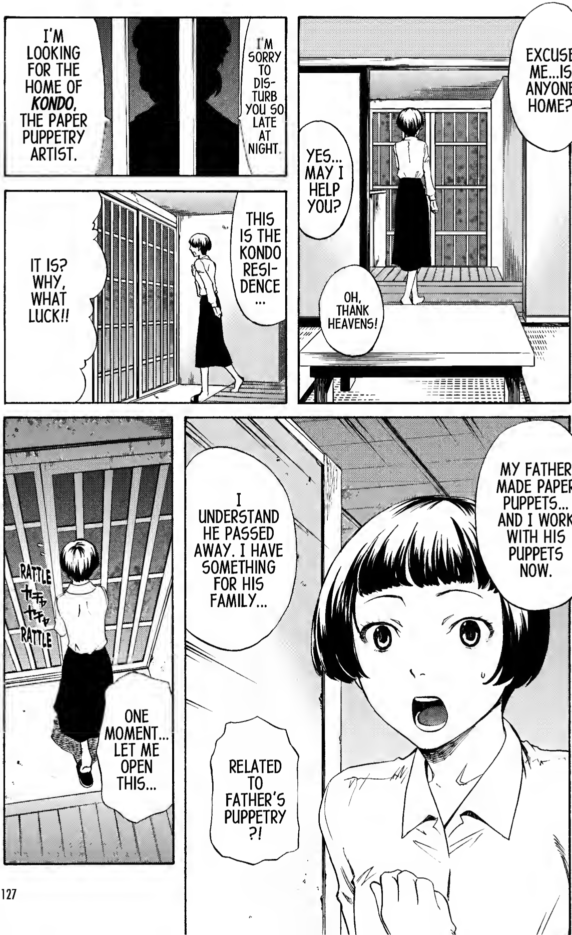

THIS PLACE IS PRETTY CLEAN FOR A BACHELOR PAD.
WELL, FUMI SEES TO THAT.
SO WHY ARE YOU HERE?
WELL, I'VE GOT NOWHERE TO STAY TONIGHT ...
...
HAVING A HOUSE-KEEPER MUST BE NICE, HIGH ROLLER!
I PAY HER WELL.
Y-YOU CAD!! OF COURSE I DON'T!!
FUMI SURE IS NICE...
SO WHAT?!
IN JAPAN I BELIEVE THAT'S KNOWN AS--
TIT FOR TAT? AND YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT?
I COULD TELL YOU LIKED THAT SAE GIRL THIS SUMMER TOO...
Tee hee!
BUT YOU ALWAYS GET SO FORMAL AND UPTIGHT.

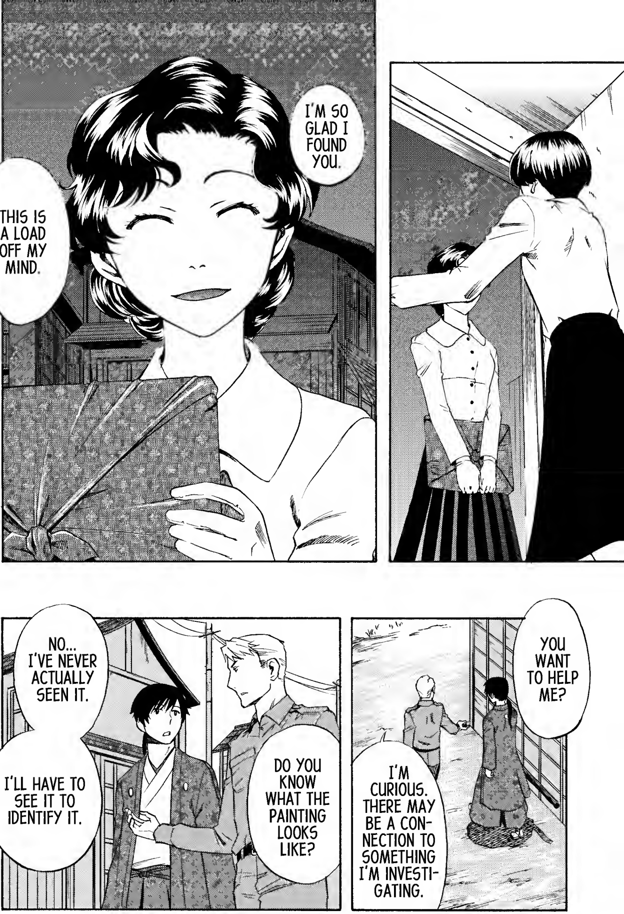

I NEVER LOOKED AT SAE THAT WAY! AND MISS FUMI AND I HAVE A STRICTLY BUSINESS-LEVEL RELATIONSHIP!
HEY, I'M NOT CRITICIZING!
LISTEN, YOU...
DO YOU JUST *PRETEND* TO ALWAYS FORGET MY NAME?!
YOU'RE SO FUN TO TEASE, DAVID!
うははは
BWAH! HA HA HA!
WAIT.
YOU REMEMBERED SAE'S NAME WITHOUT ANY TROUBLE.
はた
HALT
HMPH! I DON'T HAVE THE ENERGY FOR THIS!
WHY DID YOU COME TO TOKYO, ANYWAY?
どかっ
PLOP
I'M SEARCHING FOR A PAINTING.
A PAINTING?
IT BELONGED TO THE SHRINE WHERE I WAS STAYING, BUT IT WAS STOLEN.

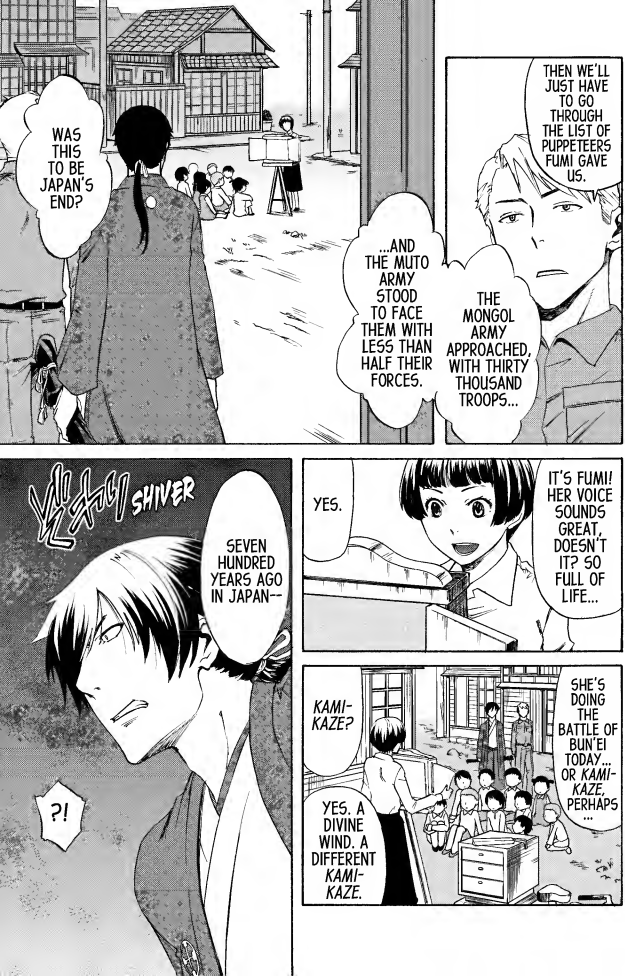

IT'S A DANGEROUS PAINTING.
IT OPENS UP A GATEWAY BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND THE NEXT...BETWEEN SHIGAN AND HIGAN.
I HEARD A RUMOR IT WAS IN TOKYO.
SO YOU'RE CHECKING WITH *PAPER PUPPETEERS*?
YES.
WHEN A HUMAN WANTS TO IMBUE A PAINTING WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS...
...THEY MIX LARGE AMOUNTS OF BLOOD OR OTHER BODY FLUIDS WITH THE PIGMENTS.
I DON'T KNOW HOW THE PAINTER GOT AHOLD OF IT...
...BUT IT USED THE BLOOD OF AN *ANCIENT ONE*.
YOU MADE IT SOUND LIKE THE PAINTER WASN'T HUMAN.
A HUMAN OR...?

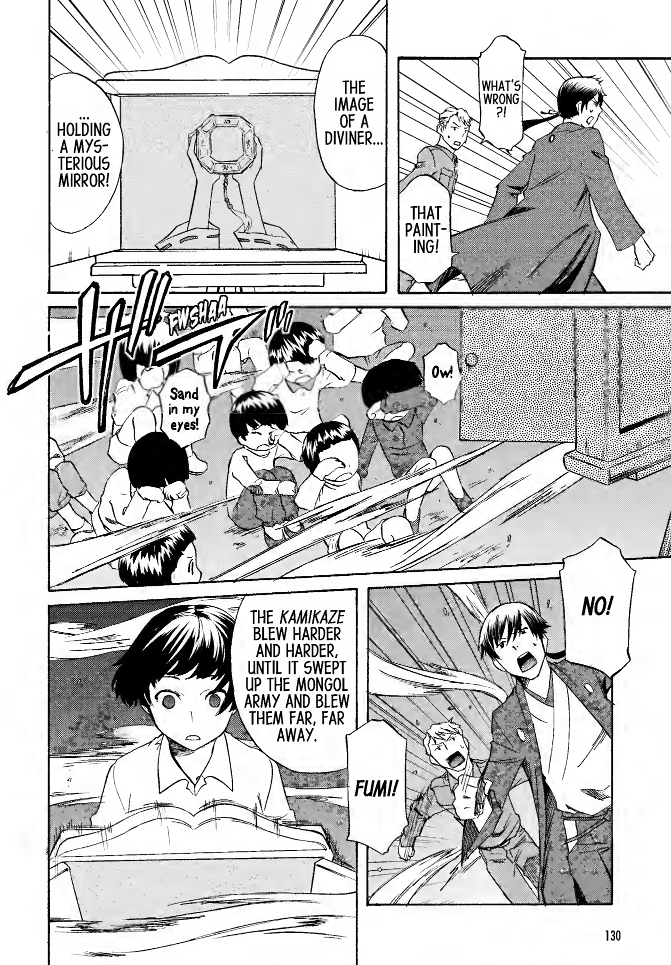

OH... DID I?
ははは HA HA HA!
SLIP OF THE TONGUE, MY FRIEND! SLIP OF THE TONGUE!
SPIRITED AWAY...TO THE NEXT WORLD...
WHAT'D YOU SAY?
NOTHING. WELL, WE HAVE MORE SEARCHING TO DO TOMORROW. LET'S GET TO SLEEP.

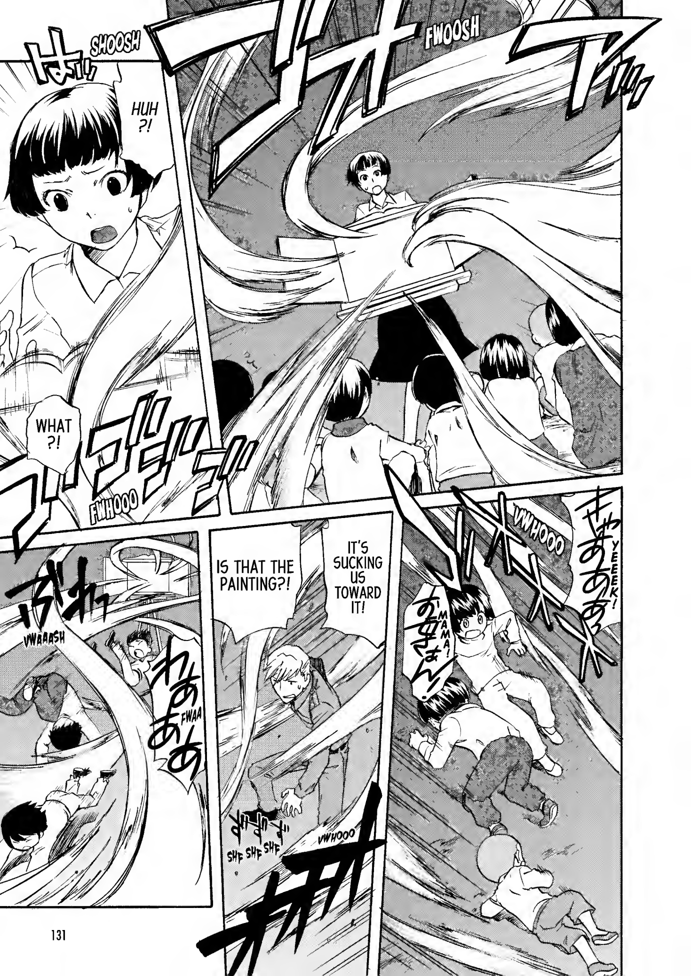

HELLO ? EXCUSE ME...
トン TOK トン TOK
WHO COULD THAT BE AT THIS HOUR?

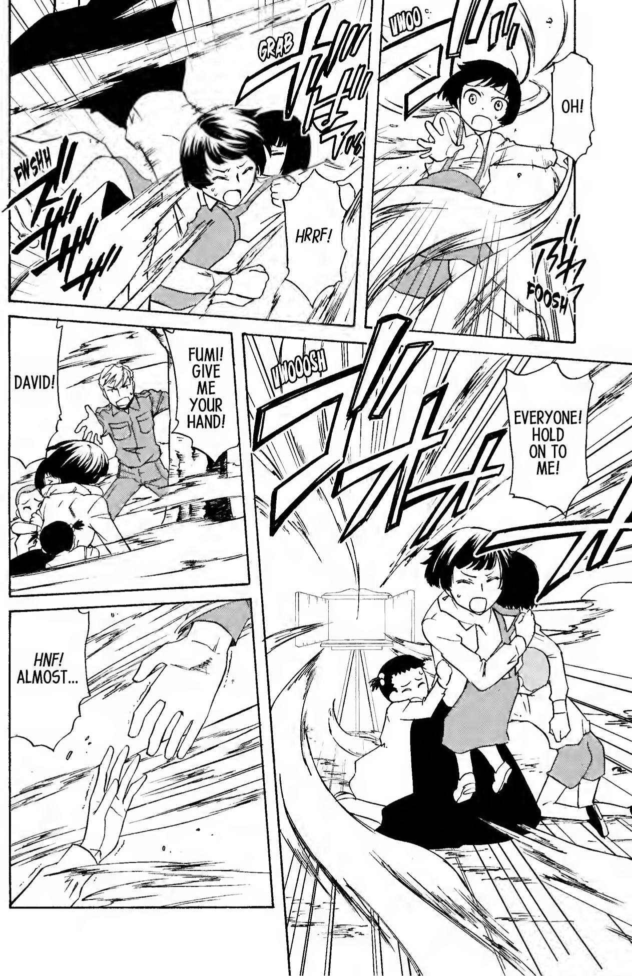

EXCUSE ME...IS ANYONE HOME?
YES... MAY I HELP YOU?
OH, THANK HEAVENS!
I'M SORRY TO DISTURB YOU SO LATE AT NIGHT.
I'M LOOKING FOR THE HOME OF *KONDO*, THE PAPER PUPPETRY ARTIST.
THIS IS THE KONDO RESIDENCE...
IT IS? WHY, WHAT LUCK!!
MY FATHER MADE PAPER PUPPETS... AND I WORK WITH HIS PUPPETS NOW.
I UNDERSTAND HE PASSED AWAY. I HAVE SOMETHING FOR HIS FAMILY...
RELATED TO FATHER'S PUPPETRY?!
RATTLE カチャ カチャ RATTLE
ONE MOMENT... LET ME OPEN THIS...

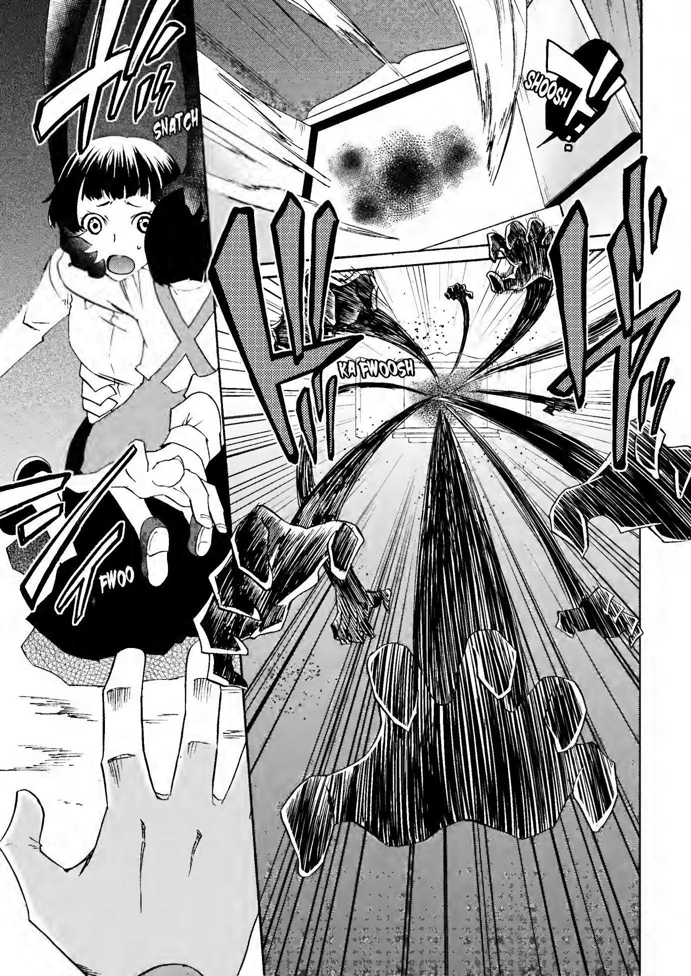

I'M SO GLAD I FOUND YOU.
THIS IS A LOAD OFF MY MIND.
YOU WANT TO HELP ME?
I'M CURIOUS. THERE MAY BE A CONNECTION TO SOMETHING I'M INVESTIGATING.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE PAINTING LOOKS LIKE?
NO... I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY SEEN IT.
I'LL HAVE TO SEE IT TO IDENTIFY IT.

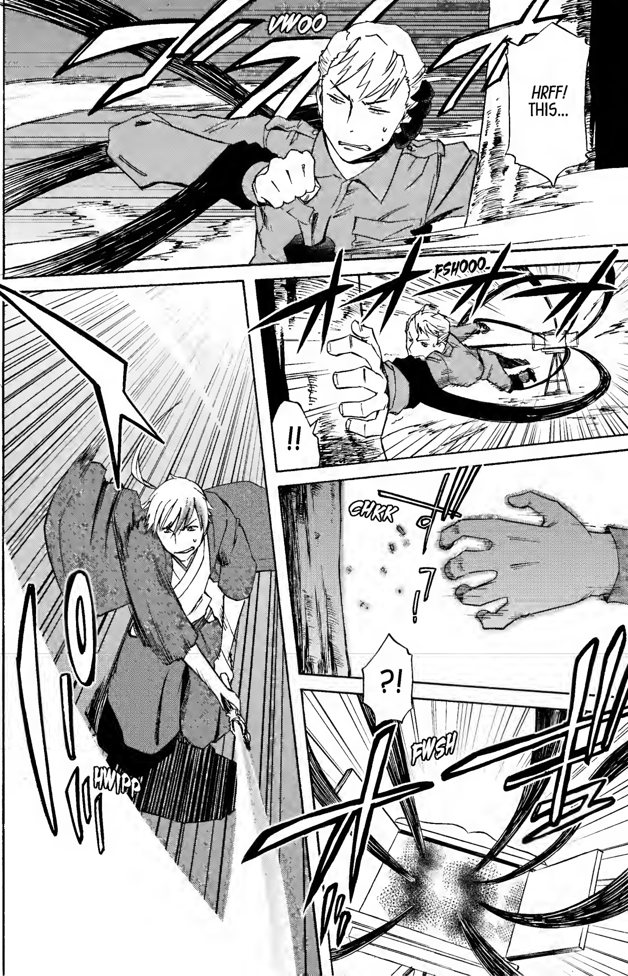

THEN WE'LL JUST HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE LIST OF PUPPETEERS FUMI GAVE US.
THE MONGOL ARMY APPROACHED, WITH THIRTY THOUSAND TROOPS...
...AND THE MUTO ARMY STOOD TO FACE THEM WITH LESS THAN HALF THEIR FORCES.
WAS THIS TO BE JAPAN'S END?
IT'S FUMI! HER VOICE SOUNDS GREAT, DOESN'T IT? SO FULL OF LIFE...
YES.
SHE'S DOING THE BATTLE OF BUN'EI TODAY... OR *KAMI-KAZE*, PERHAPS...
KAMI-KAZE?
YES. A DIVINE WIND. A DIFFERENT *KAMI-KAZE*.
SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS AGO IN JAPAN--
SHIVER
?!

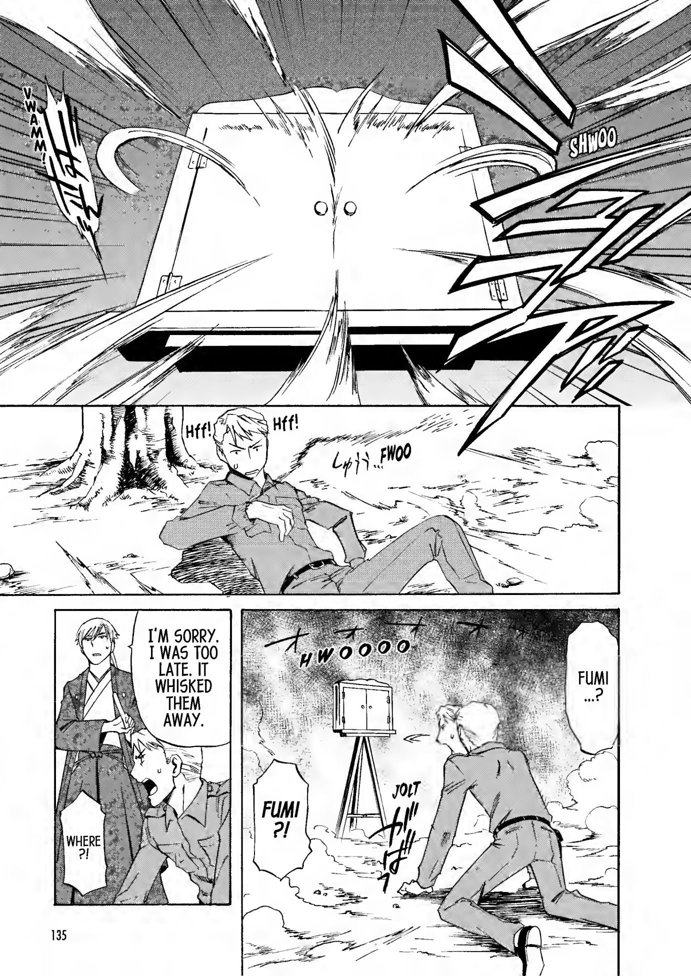

WHAT'S WRONG ?!
THAT PAINTING!
THE IMAGE OF A DIVINER...
... HOLDING A MYSTERIOUS MIRROR!
FWSHAA
Ow!
Sand in my eyes!
NO!
FUMI!
THE *KAMIKAZE* BLEW HARDER AND HARDER, UNTIL IT SWEPT UP THE MONGOL ARMY AND BLEW THEM FAR, FAR AWAY.

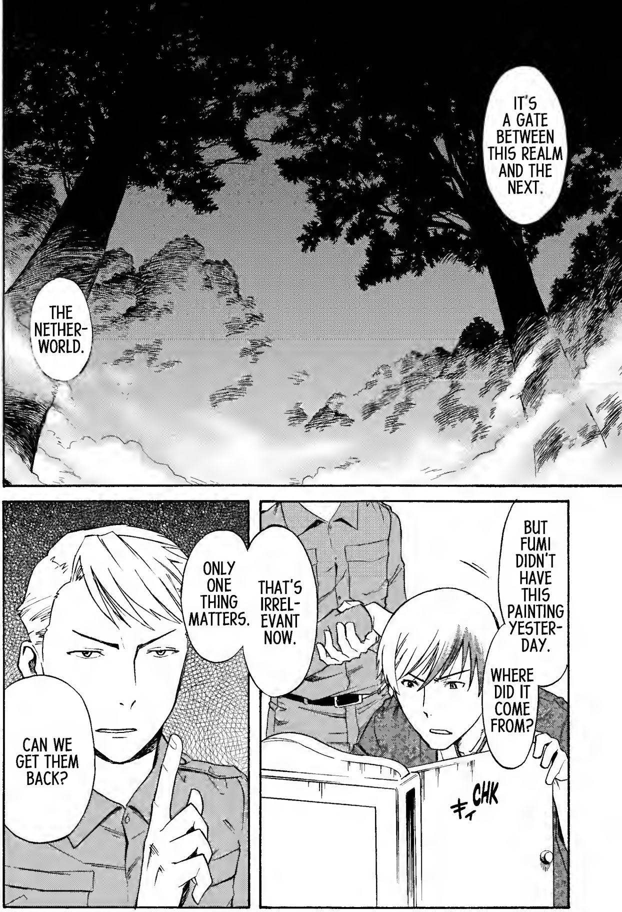

ブオーーッ
FWOOSH
はっ
SHOOSH
HUH ?!
WHAT ?!
ゴゴゴゴゴ
FWHOOO
ゴオオオオ
VWHOOO
きゃあああっ
YEEEEK!
お母さん!
MAMA!
IT'S SUCKING US TOWARD IT!
IS THAT THE PAINTING?!
ずりずりず
SHF SHF SHF
ゴオ
VWHOOO
ぶわっ
VWAAASH
わあああ
FWAA

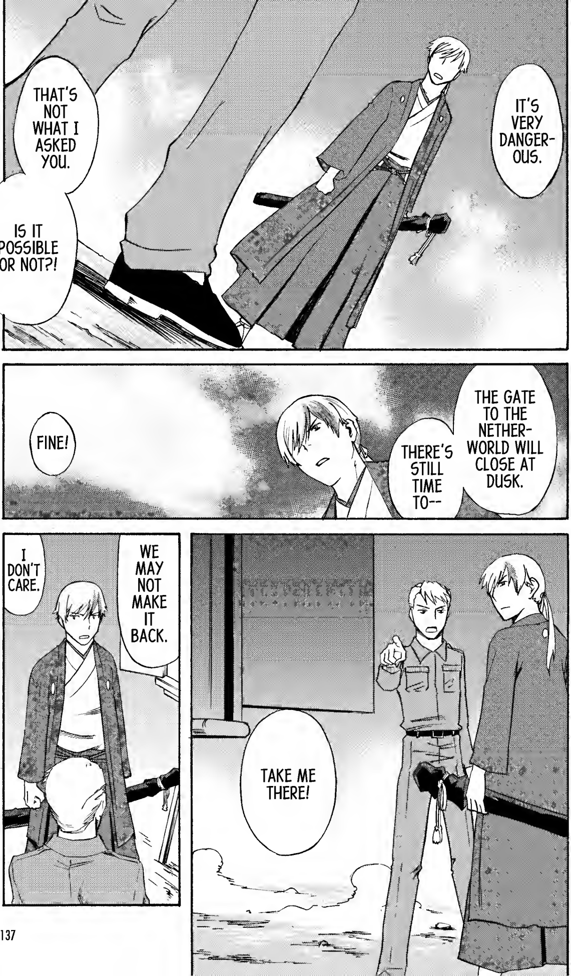

VWOO
OH!
FOOSH
GRAB
HRRF!
FWSHH
VWOOOSH
EVERYONE! HOLD ON TO ME!
FUMI! GIVE ME YOUR HAND!
DAVID!
HNF! ALMOST...

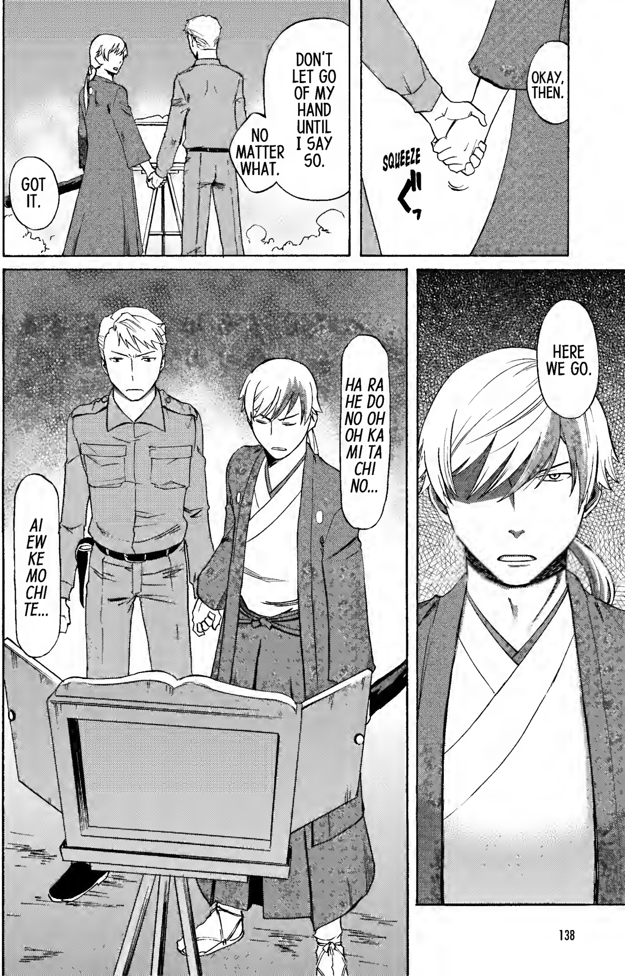

SHOOSH
SNATCH
KA FWOOSH
FWOO

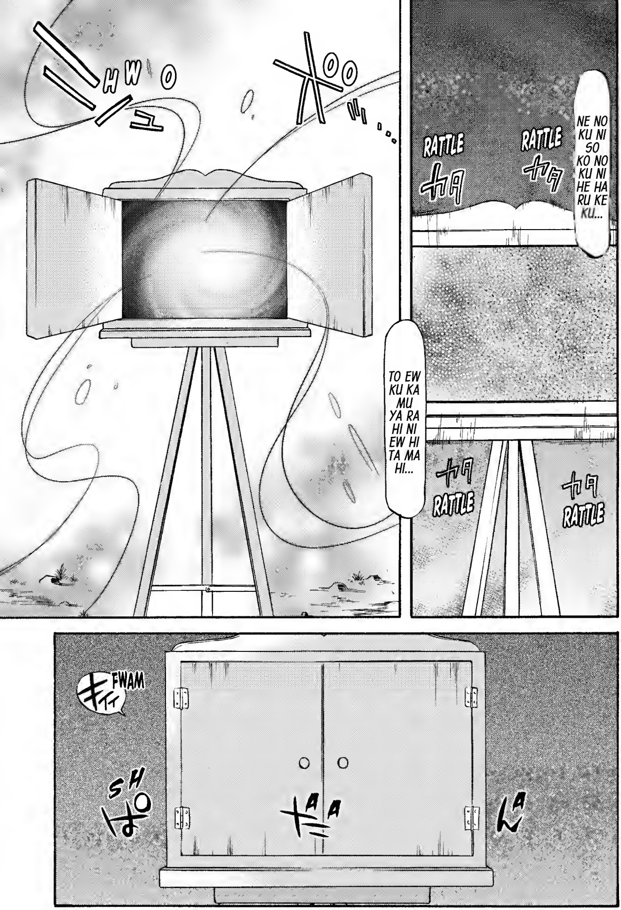

VWOO
HRFF! THIS...
FSHOOO
!!
CHKK
?!
FWSH
HWIPP

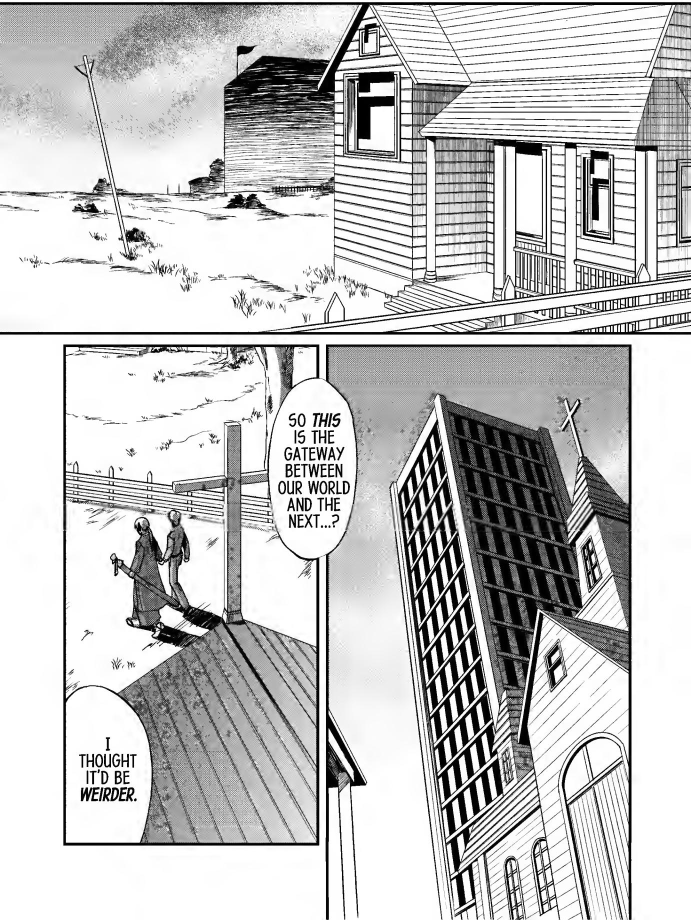

SHWOO
VWAMM!
Hff!
Hff!
しゅぅぅ...FWOO
FUMI ...?
HWOOOO
FUMI ?!
JOLT
I'M SORRY. I WAS TOO LATE. IT WHISKED THEM AWAY.
WHERE ?!


IT'S A GATE BETWEEN THIS REALM AND THE NEXT.
THE NETHER-WORLD.
BUT FUMI DIDN'T HAVE THIS PAINTING YESTERDAY.
WHERE DID IT COME FROM?
キィ CHK
THAT'S IRREL-EVANT NOW.
ONLY ONE THING MATTERS.
CAN WE GET THEM BACK?


IT'S VERY DANGEROUS.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I ASKED YOU.
IS IT POSSIBLE OR NOT?!
THE GATE TO THE NETHERWORLD WILL CLOSE AT DUSK.
THERE'S STILL TIME TO--
FINE!
TAKE ME THERE!
WE MAY NOT MAKE IT BACK.
I DON'T CARE.


OKAY, THEN.
SQUEEZE
DON'T LET GO OF MY HAND UNTIL I SAY SO.
NO MATTER WHAT.
GOT IT.
HERE WE GO.
HA RA HE DO NO OH OH KA MI TA CHI NO...
AI EW KE MO CHI TE...


NE NO KU NI SO KO NO KU NI HE HA RU KE KU...
RATTLE カタ
RATTLE カタ
TO EW KU KA MU YA RA HI NI EW HI TA MA HI...
カタ RATTLE
カタ RATTLE
HWO
OO
FWAM
SH
AA
A


SO *THIS* IS THE GATEWAY BETWEEN OUR WORLD AND THE NEXT...?
I THOUGHT IT'D BE *WEIRDER.*

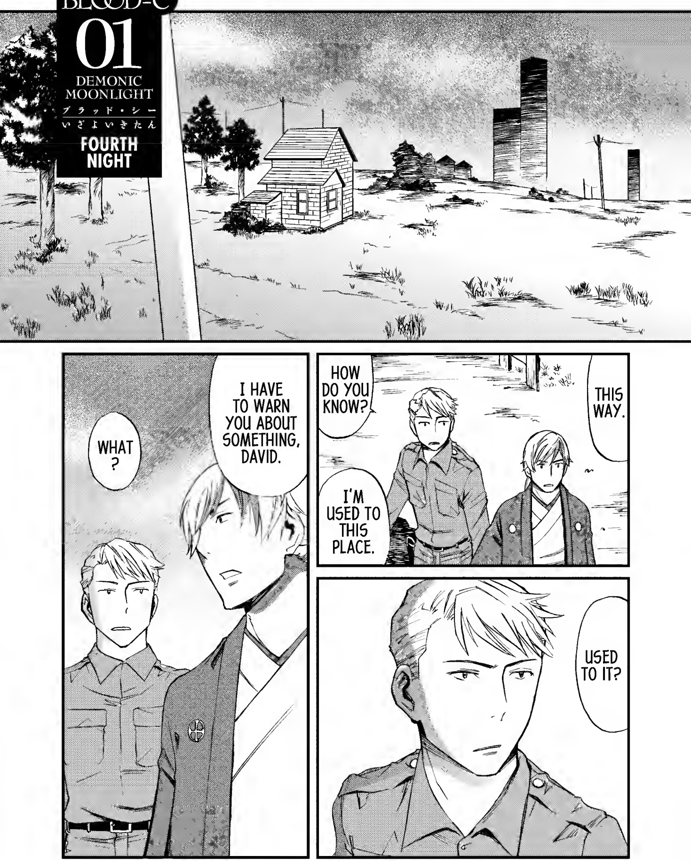
BLOOD-C

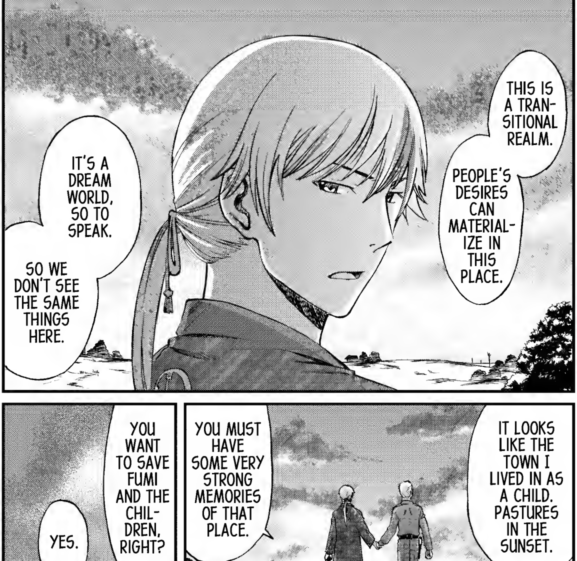
01

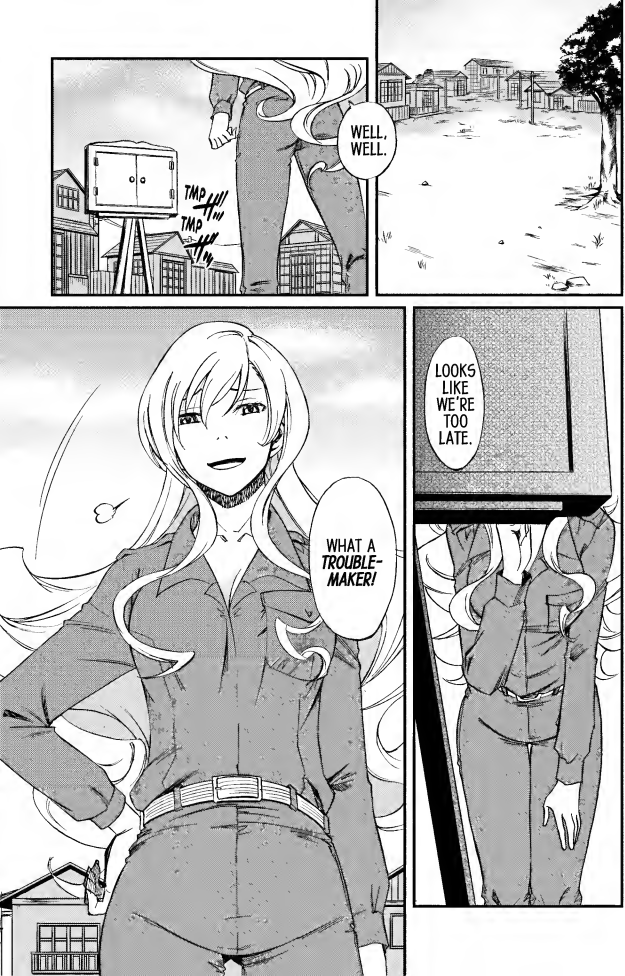
DEMONIC MOONLIGHT

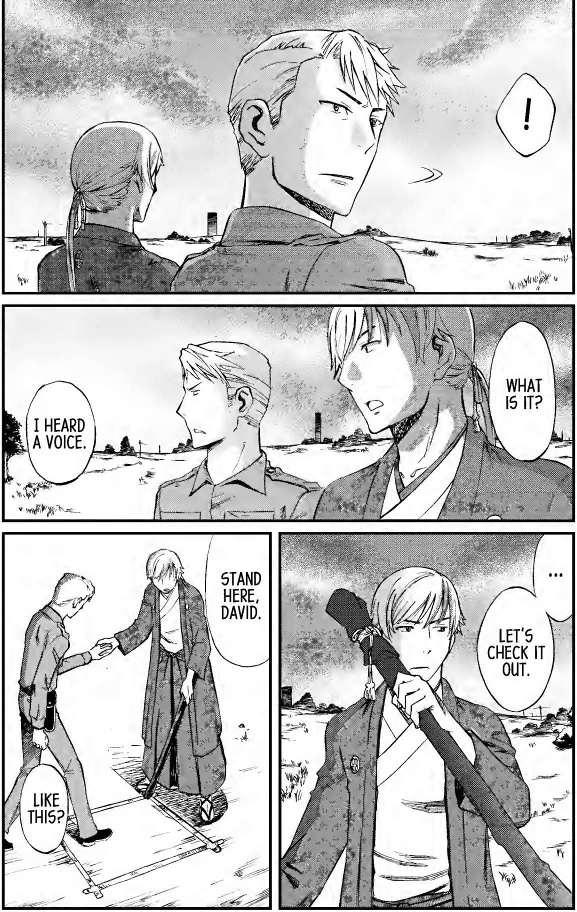
ブラッド・シー
いざよいきたん

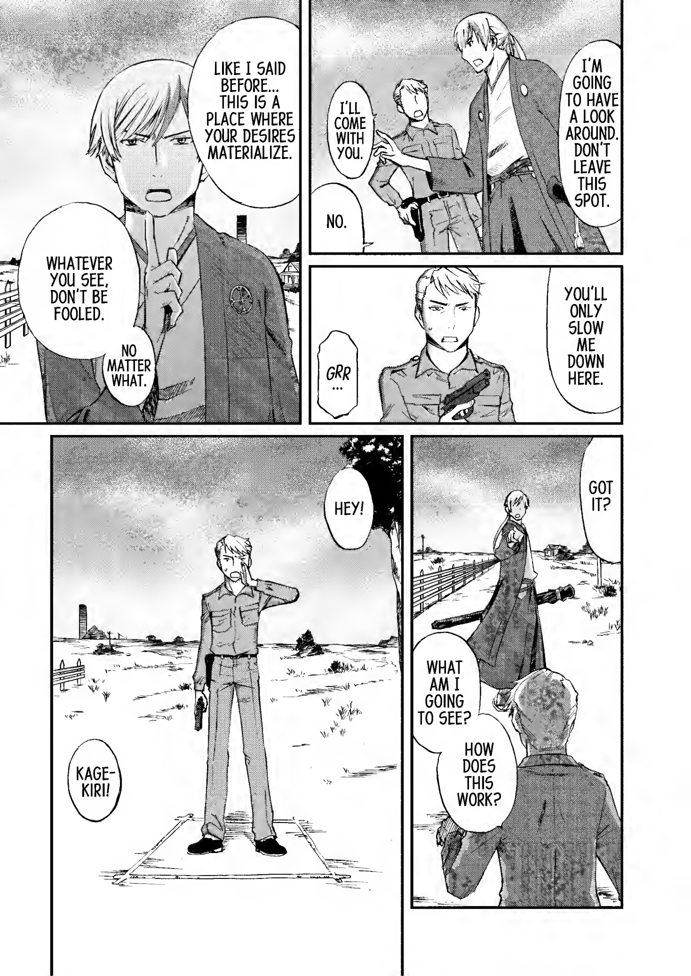
FOURTH NIGHT

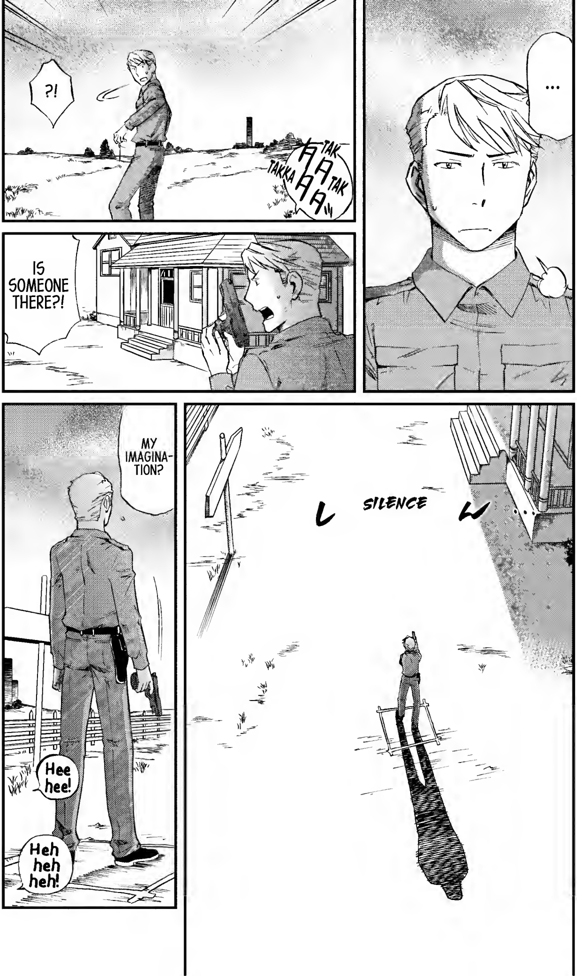

THIS WAY.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I'M USED TO THIS PLACE.
USED TO IT?
I HAVE TO WARN YOU ABOUT SOMETHING, DAVID.
WHAT?

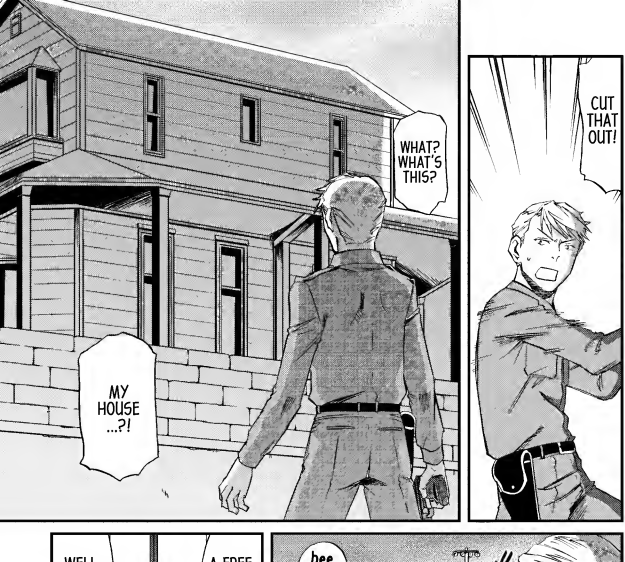

THIS IS A TRANSITIONAL REALM.
PEOPLE'S DESIRES CAN MATERIALIZE IN THIS PLACE.
IT'S A DREAM WORLD, SO TO SPEAK.
SO WE DON'T SEE THE SAME THINGS HERE.
IT LOOKS LIKE THE TOWN I LIVED IN AS A CHILD. PASTURES IN THE SUNSET.
YOU MUST HAVE SOME VERY STRONG MEMORIES OF THAT PLACE.
WHO ARE YOU, REALLY?
YOU'RE NO ORDINARY PRIEST.
YOU WANT TO SAVE FUMI AND THE CHILDREN, RIGHT?
YES.
I'M PAYING YOU BACK FOR TRUSTING ME AND PUTTING ME UP FOR A NIGHT.

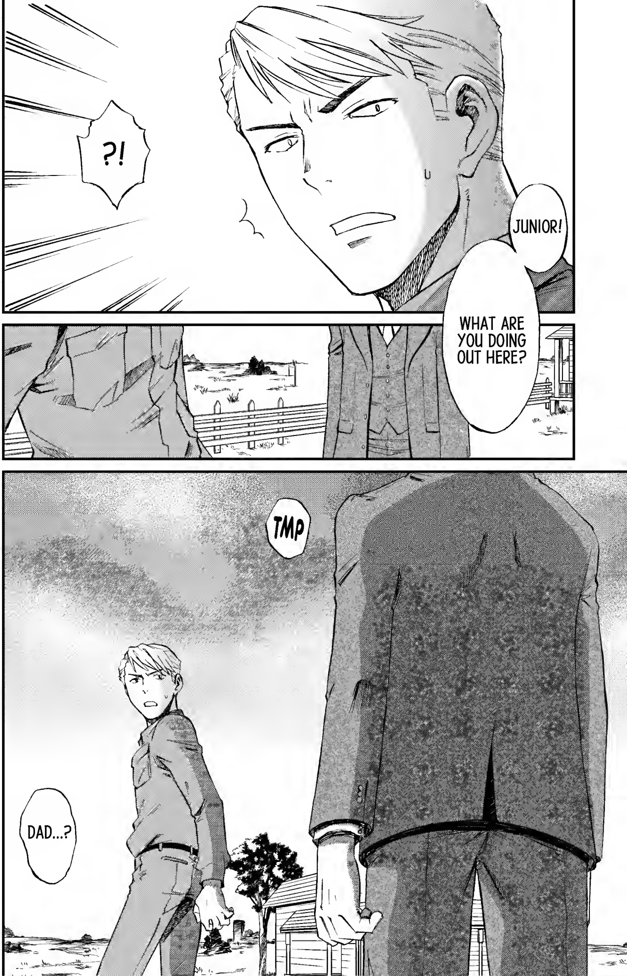

WELL, WELL.
TMP
TMP
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TOO LATE.
WHAT A *TROUBLEMAKER!*

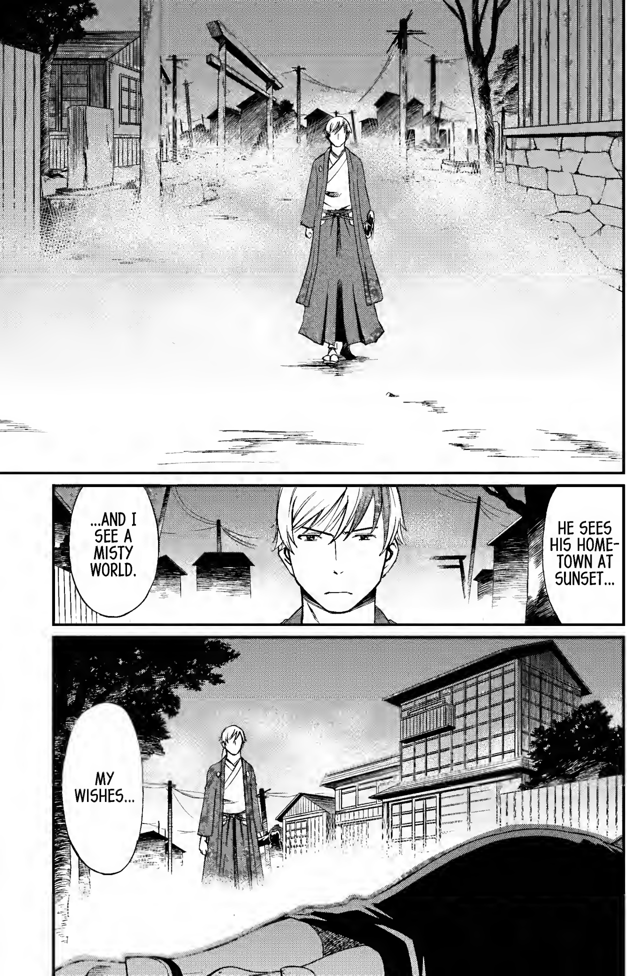

!
WHAT IS IT?
I HEARD A VOICE.
...
LET'S CHECK IT OUT.
STAND HERE, DAVID.
LIKE THIS?

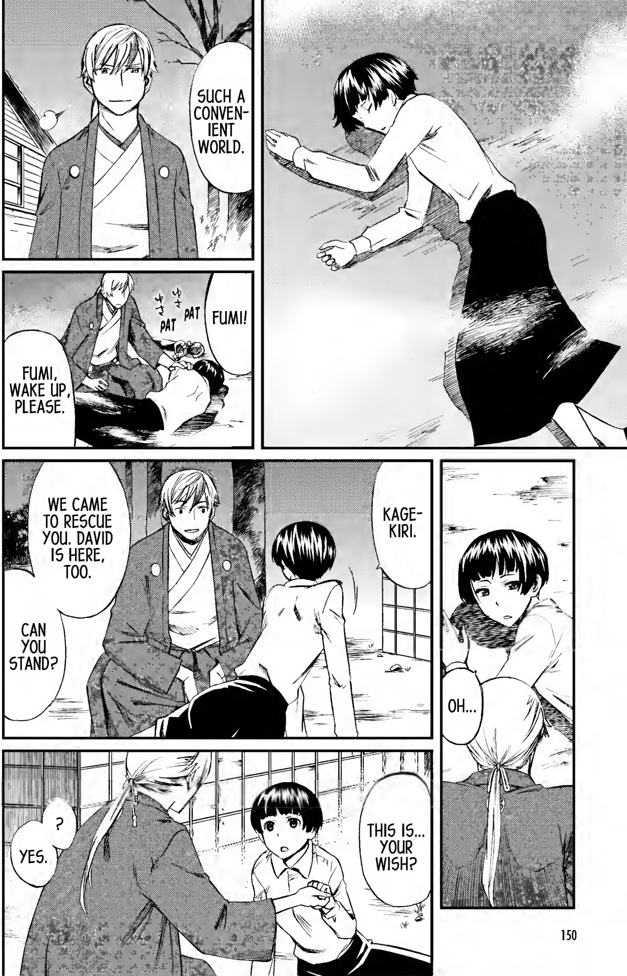

I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK AROUND. DON'T LEAVE THIS SPOT.
I'LL COME WITH YOU.
NO.
YOU'LL ONLY SLOW ME DOWN HERE.
GRR ...
LIKE I SAID BEFORE... THIS IS A PLACE WHERE YOUR DESIRES MATERIALIZE.
WHATEVER YOU SEE, DON'T BE FOOLED.
NO MATTER WHAT.
GOT IT?
WHAT AM I GOING TO SEE?
HOW DOES THIS WORK?
HEY!
KAGE-KIRI!

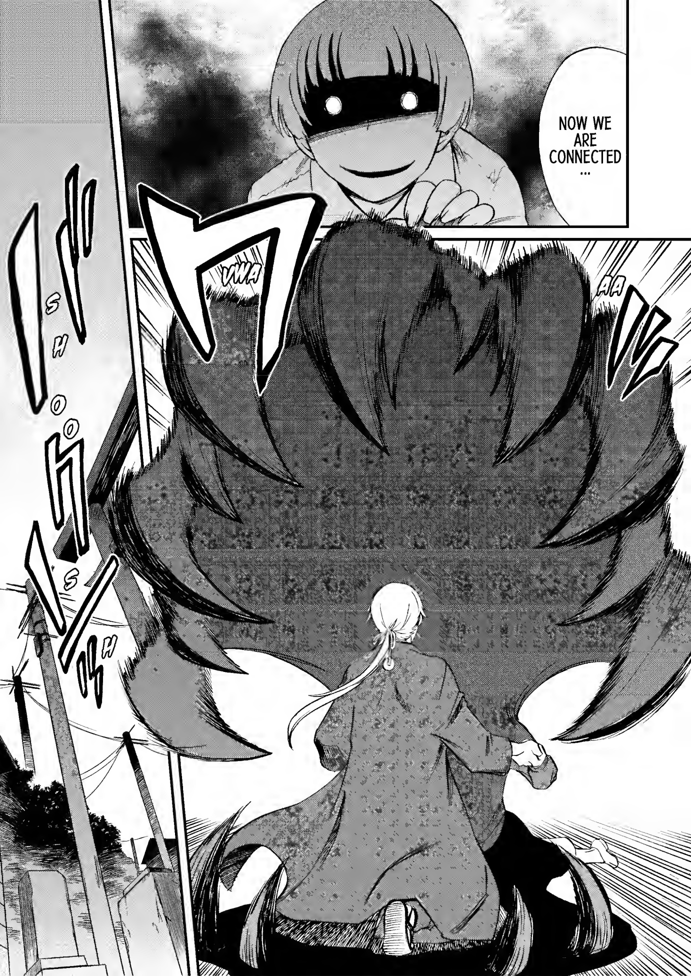

?!
TAK TAKKA TAK
IS SOMEONE THERE?!
...
MY IMAGINATION?
Hee hee!
Heh heh heh!
SILENCE
...

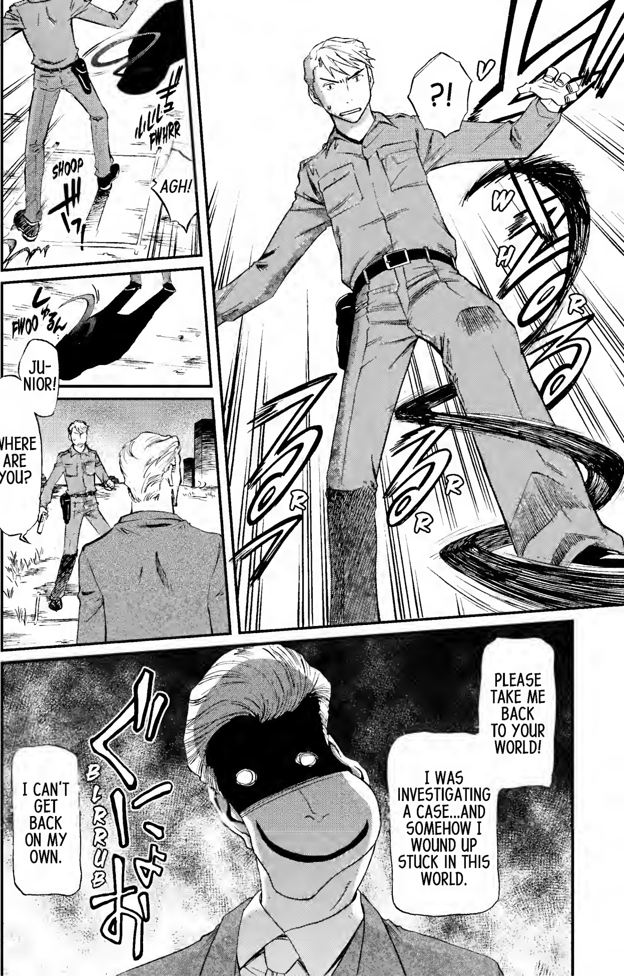

CUT THAT OUT!
WHAT? WHAT'S THIS?
MY HOUSE ...?!
hee hee hee!
ばっ
WHOOSH
Papa!
ばっ
HWIP
A FREE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE?
WELL, THANK YOU.
JU-NIOR!

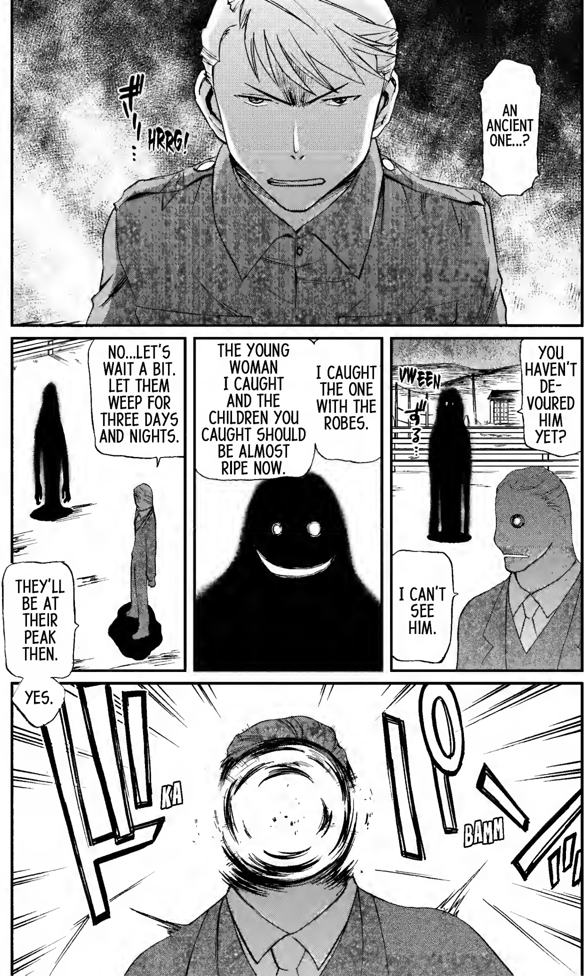

JUNIOR!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?
?!
TMP
DAD...?

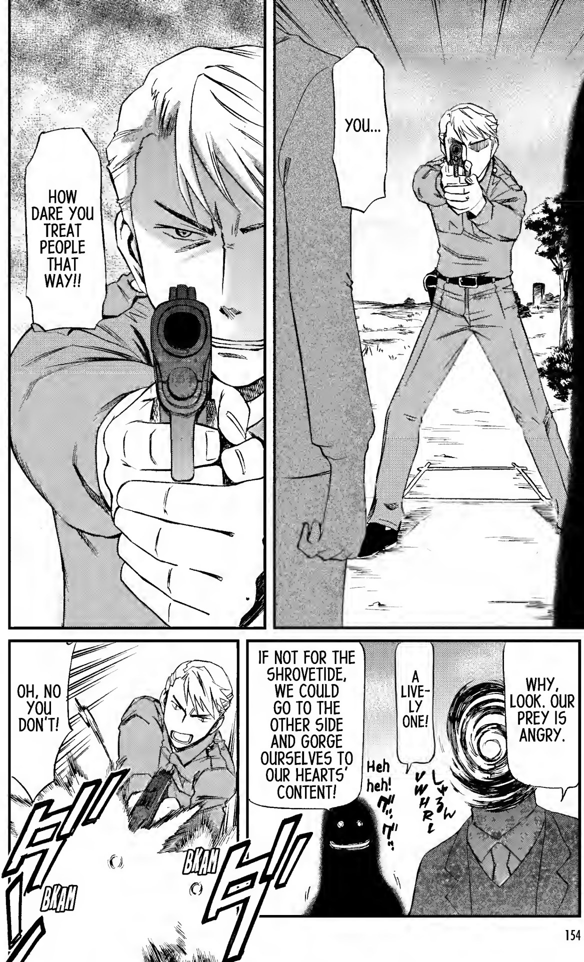

HE SEES HIS HOMETOWN AT SUNSET...
...AND I SEE A MISTY WORLD.
MY WISHES...

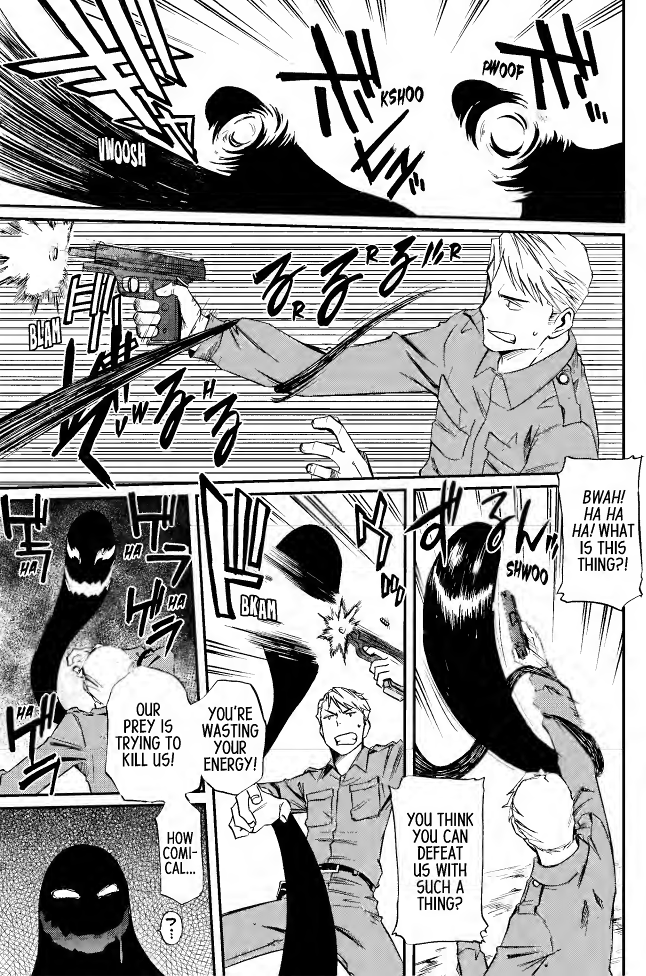

SUCH A CONVENIENT WORLD.
FUMI!
ゆさ ゆさ
PAT PAT
FUMI, WAKE UP, PLEASE.
KAGE-KIRI.
WE CAME TO RESCUE YOU. DAVID IS HERE, TOO.
CAN YOU STAND?
OH...
THIS IS... YOUR WISH?
?
YES.

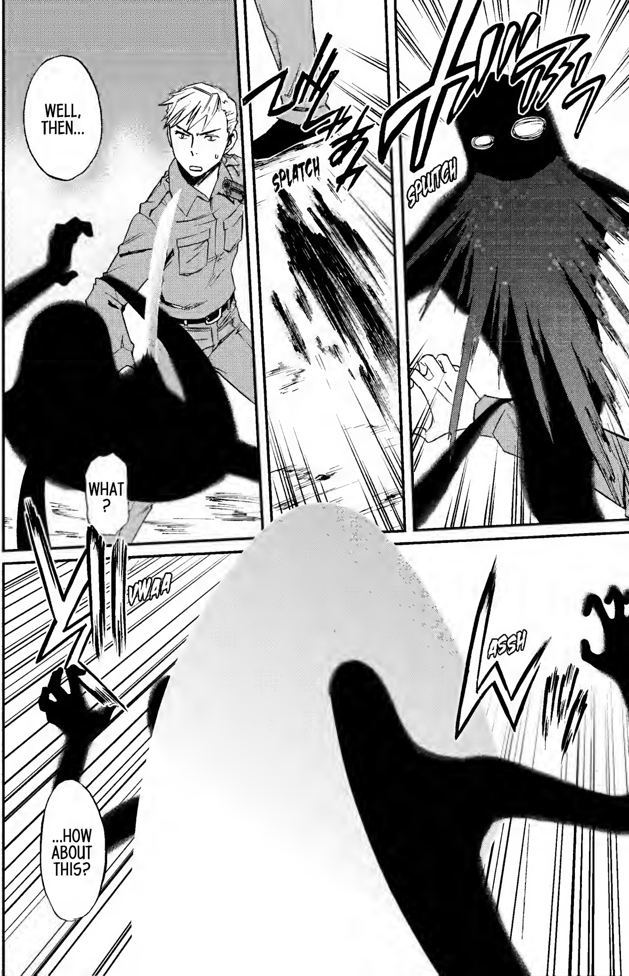

NOW WE ARE CONNECTED ...
VWA
AA
SHOOSH

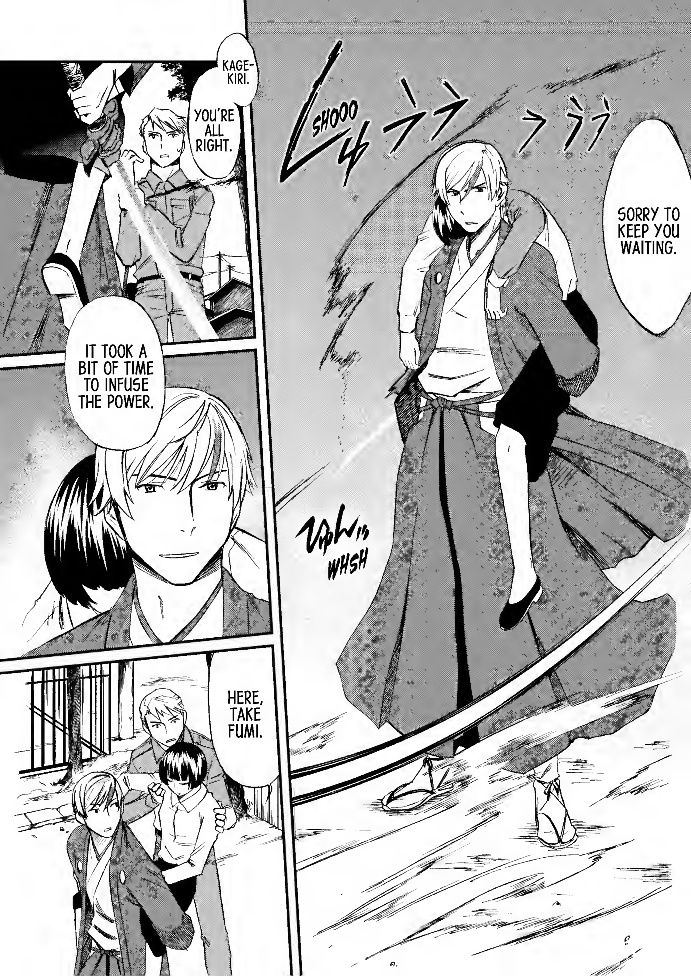

?!
WHRR
RR
FWHRR
AGH!
SHOOP
FWOO
JUNIOR!
WHERE ARE YOU?
PLEASE TAKE ME BACK TO YOUR WORLD!
I WAS INVESTIGATING A CASE...AND SOMEHOW I WOUND UP STUCK IN THIS WORLD.
BLRRUB
I CAN'T GET BACK ON MY OWN.

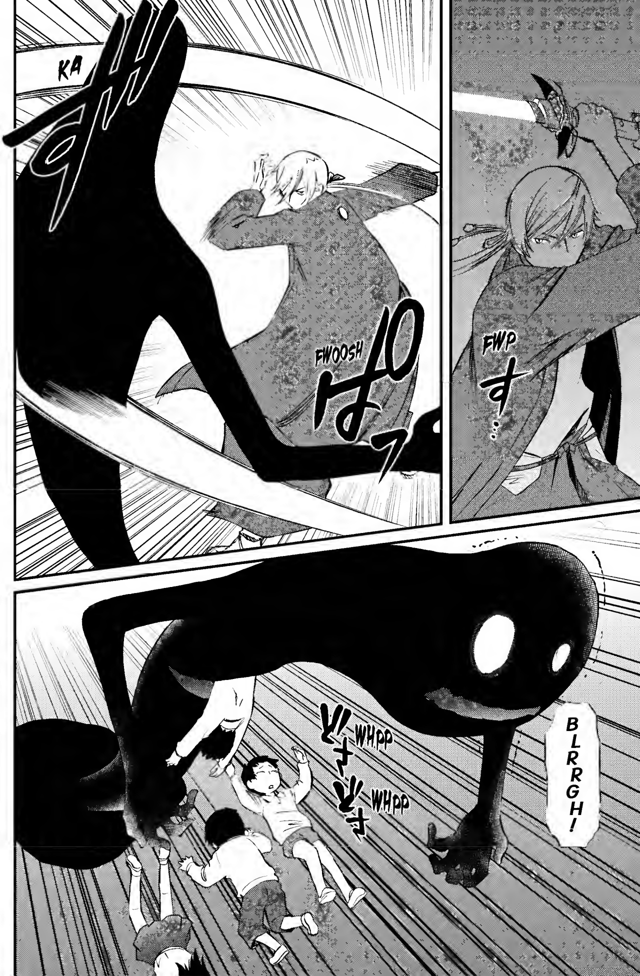

AN ANCIENT ONE...?
HRRG!
YOU HAVEN'T DE-VOURED HIM YET?
VWEEN
I CAN'T SEE HIM.
I CAUGHT THE ONE WITH THE ROBES.
THE YOUNG WOMAN I CAUGHT AND THE CHILDREN YOU CAUGHT SHOULD BE ALMOST RIPE NOW.
NO...LET'S WAIT A BIT. LET THEM WEEP FOR THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS.
THEY'LL BE AT THEIR PEAK THEN.
YES.
KA
BAMM

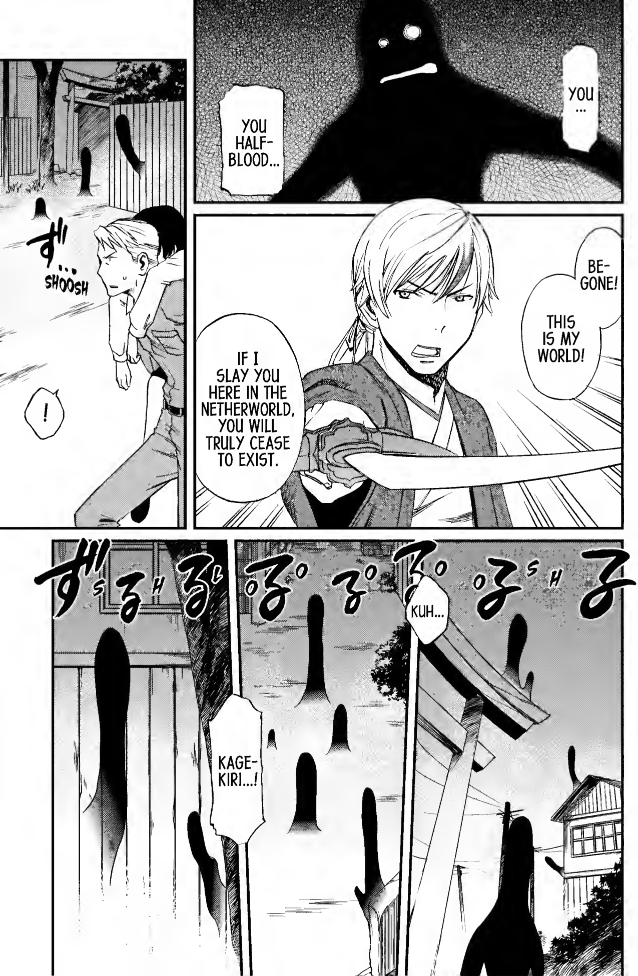

YOU...
HOW DARE YOU TREAT PEOPLE THAT WAY!!
WHY, LOOK. OUR PREY IS ANGRY.
VWHRL
A LIVELY-LY ONE!
Heh heh!
IF NOT FOR THE SHROVETIDE, WE COULD GO TO THE OTHER SIDE AND GORGE OURSELVES TO OUR HEARTS' CONTENT!
OH, NO YOU DON'T!
BKAM
BKAM

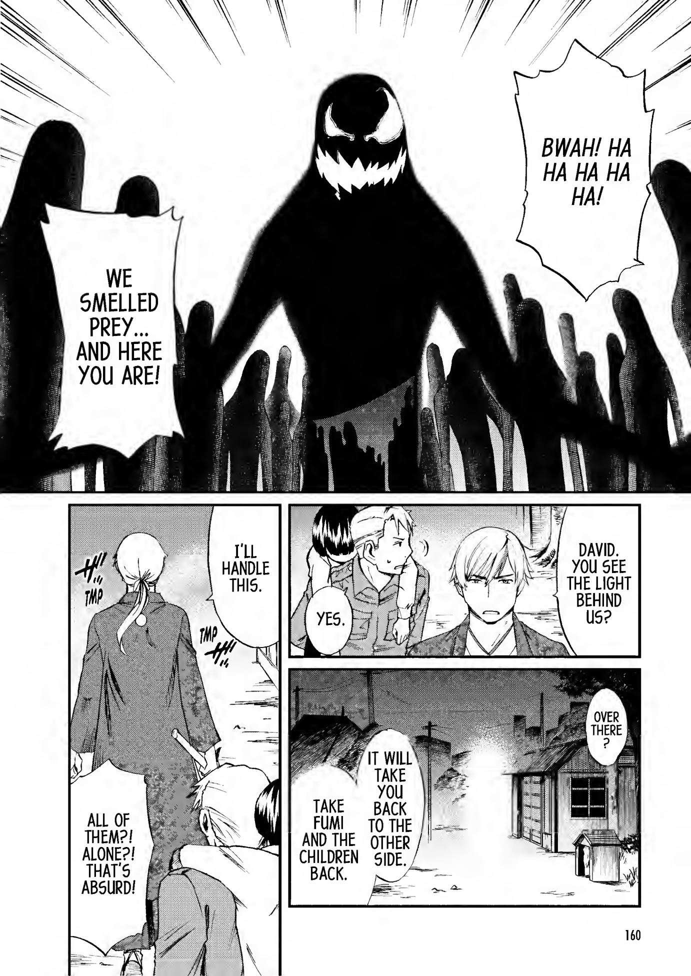

PWOOF
KSHOO
VWOOSH
R R R R
BLAM
VWHH
BWAH! HA HA HA! WHAT IS THIS THING?!
SHWOO
BKAM
YOU THINK YOU CAN DEFEAT US WITH SUCH A THING?
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR ENERGY!
HA HA HA HA
OUR PREY IS TRYING TO KILL US!
HOW COMI-CAL...
?...

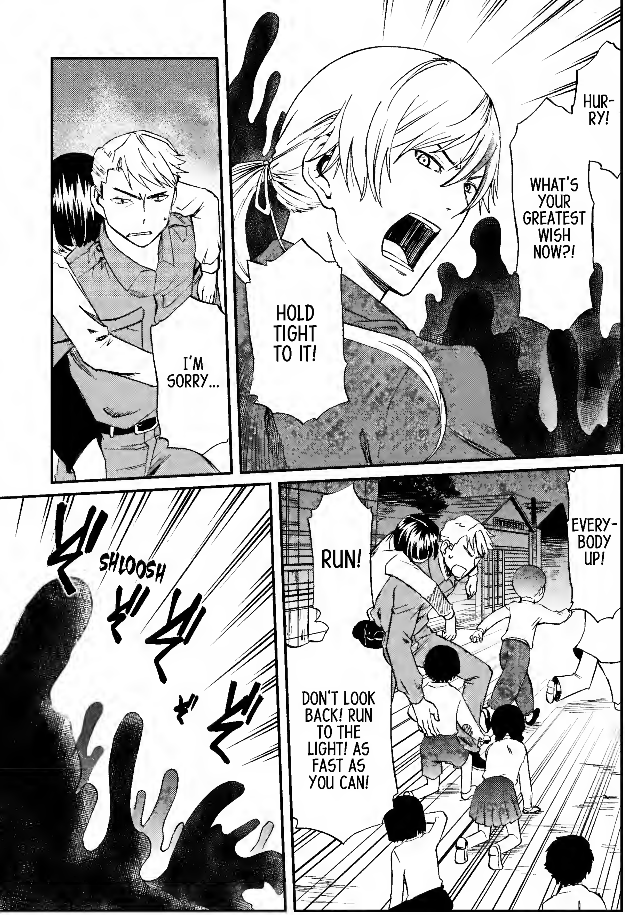

SPLUTCH
SPLATCH
WELL, THEN...
WHAT?
LASSH
VWAA
...HOW ABOUT THIS?

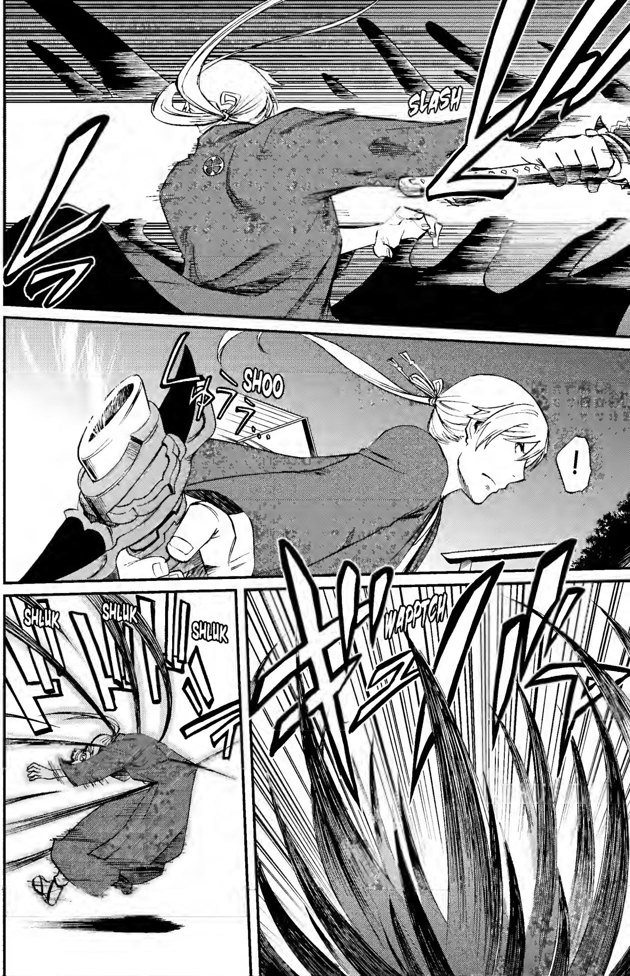

SHOOO
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
WHSH
KAGE-KIRI.
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.
IT TOOK A BIT OF TIME TO INFUSE THE POWER.
HERE, TAKE FUMI.

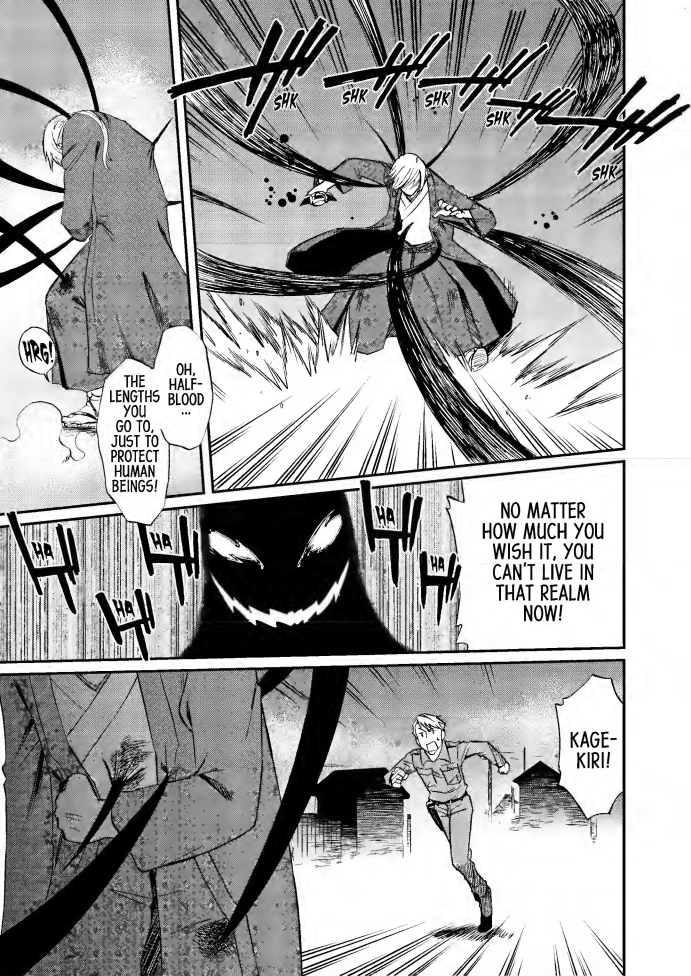

FWP
す…
KA
ガ
FWOOSH
ぱっ
BLRRGH!
WHPP
どさ
WHPP
どさ

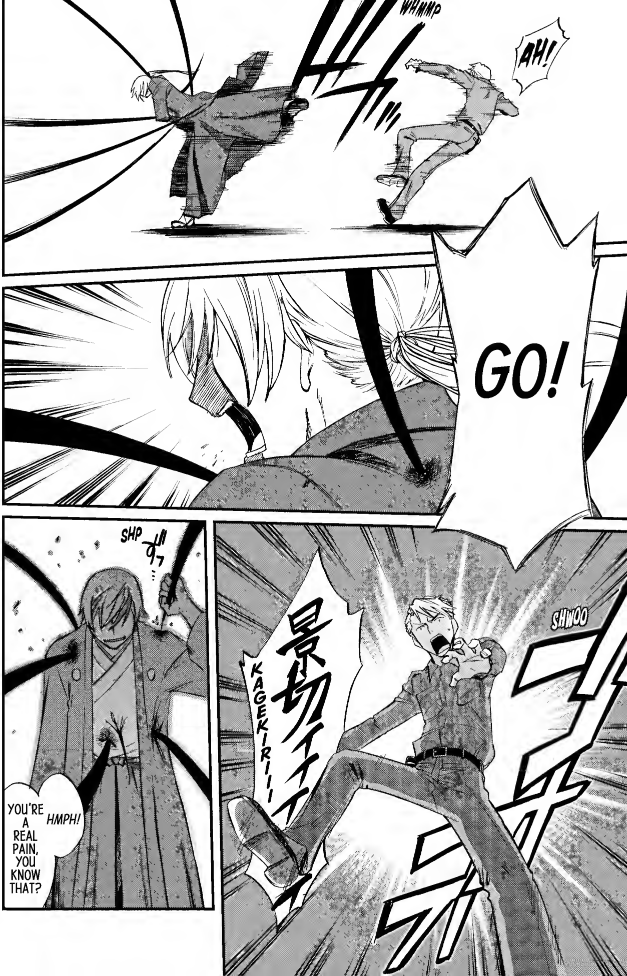

YOU ...
YOU HALF-BLOOD...
BE-GONE!
THIS IS MY WORLD!
IF I SLAY YOU HERE IN THE NETHERWORLD, YOU WILL TRULY CEASE TO EXIST.
ず…
SHOOSH
!
ずるるるるるるるる
SHLOOOSH
KUH...
KAGE-KIRI...!

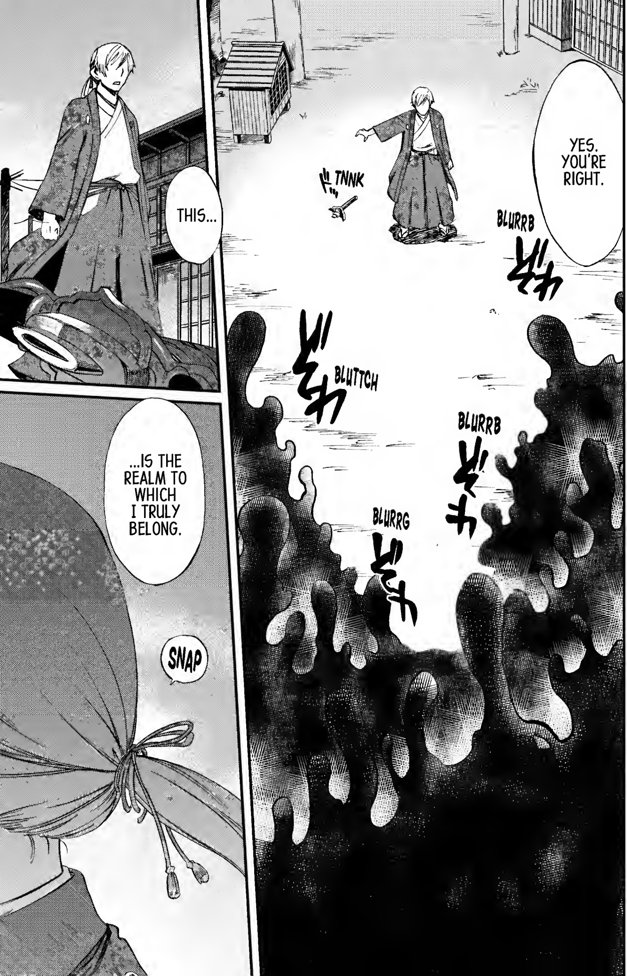

BWAH! HA HA HA HA HA!
WE SMELLED PREY... AND HERE YOU ARE!
DAVID. YOU SEE THE LIGHT BEHIND US?
YES.
OVER THERE?
IT WILL TAKE YOU BACK TO THE OTHER SIDE.
TAKE FUMI AND THE CHILDREN BACK.
I'LL HANDLE THIS.
TMP
TMP
ALL OF THEM?! ALONE?! THAT'S ABSURD!

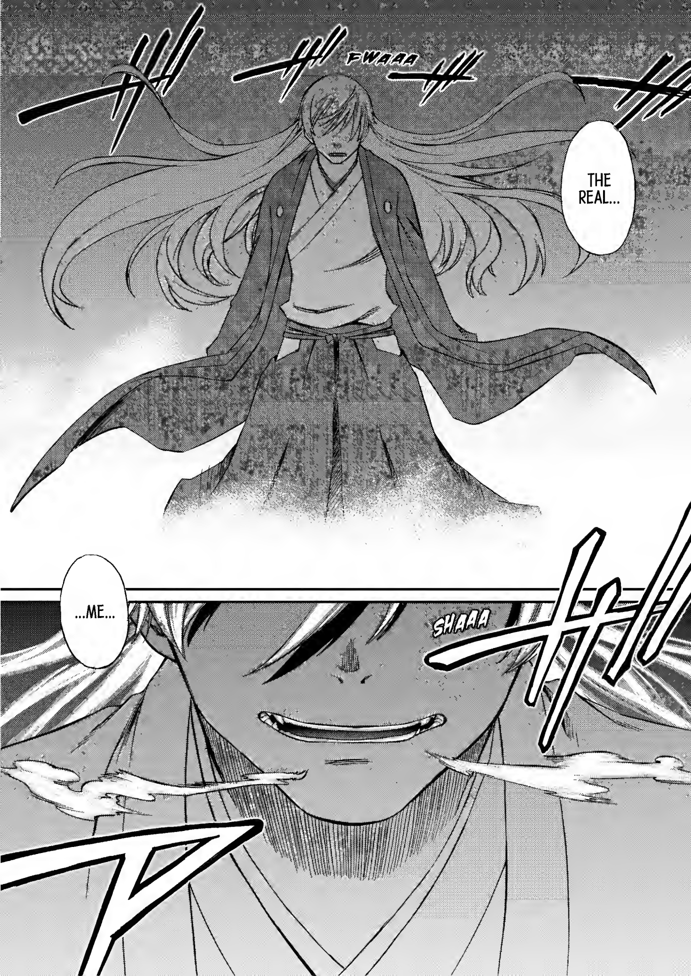

HURRY!
WHAT'S YOUR GREATEST WISH NOW?!
HOLD TIGHT TO IT!
I'M SORRY...
EVERYBODY UP!
RUN!
DON'T LOOK BACK! RUN TO THE LIGHT! AS FAST AS YOU CAN!
ぞ
SHLOOSH
ぞ
ぞ
ぞ
ぞ

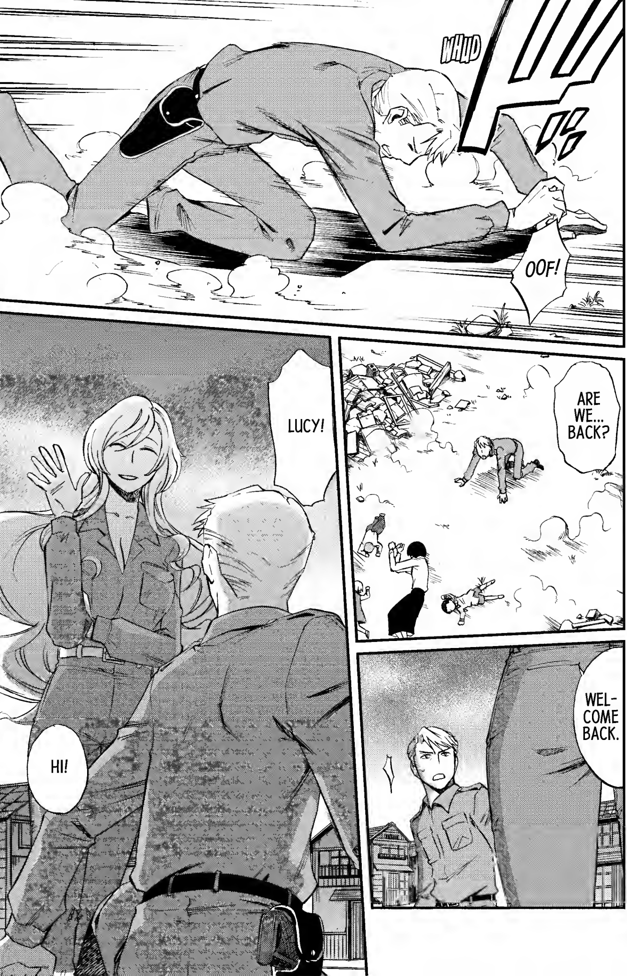

SLASH
SHOO
!
WAPPTCH
SHLUK
SHLUK
SHLUK

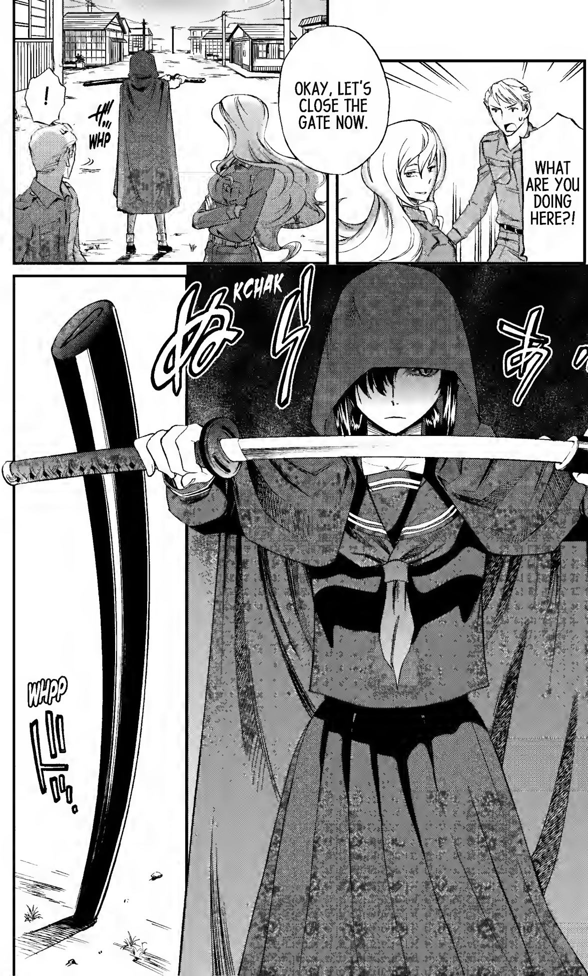

SHK
SHK
SHK
SHK
SHK
OH, HALF-BLOOD…
THE LENGTHS YOU GO TO, JUST TO PROTECT HUMAN BEINGS!
HRG!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU WISH IT, YOU CAN'T LIVE IN THAT REALM NOW!
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
KAGE-KIRI!

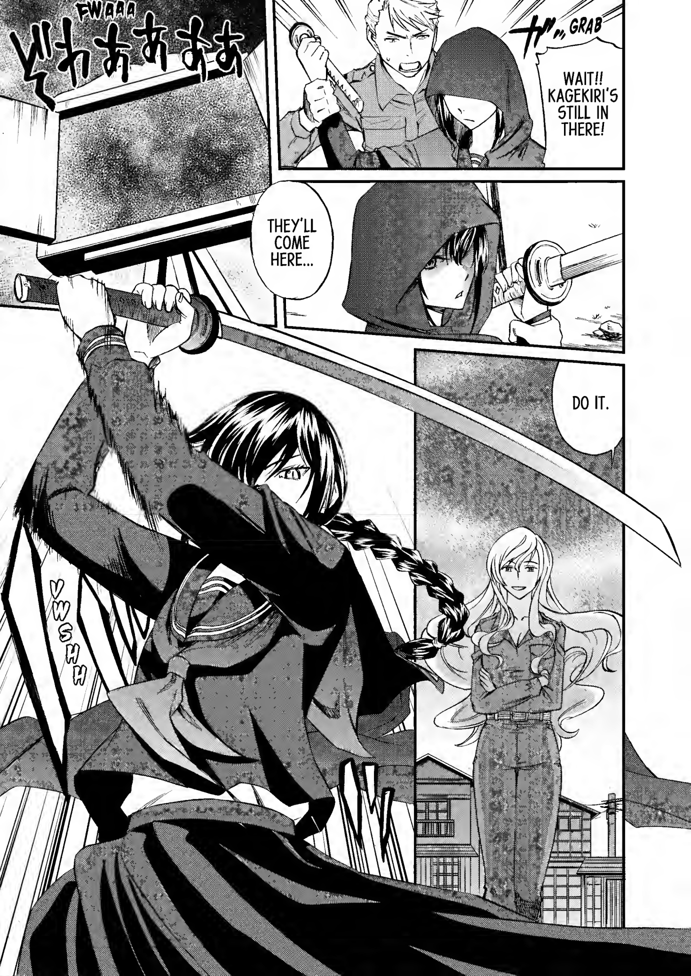

AH!
WHMMP
GO!
景切ィィィィ
KAGEKIRIIII
SHWOO
SHP
ずっ…
HMPH!
YOU'RE A REAL PAIN, YOU KNOW THAT?

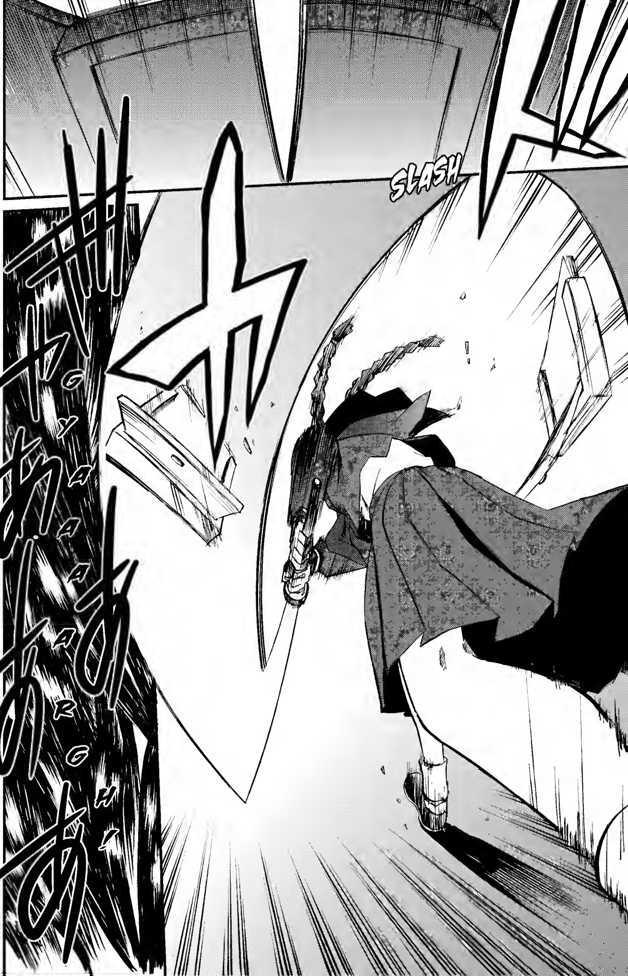

YES. YOU'RE RIGHT.
TNNK
BLURRB
BLUTTCH
BLURRB
BLURRG
THIS...
...IS THE REALM TO WHICH I TRULY BELONG.
SNAP

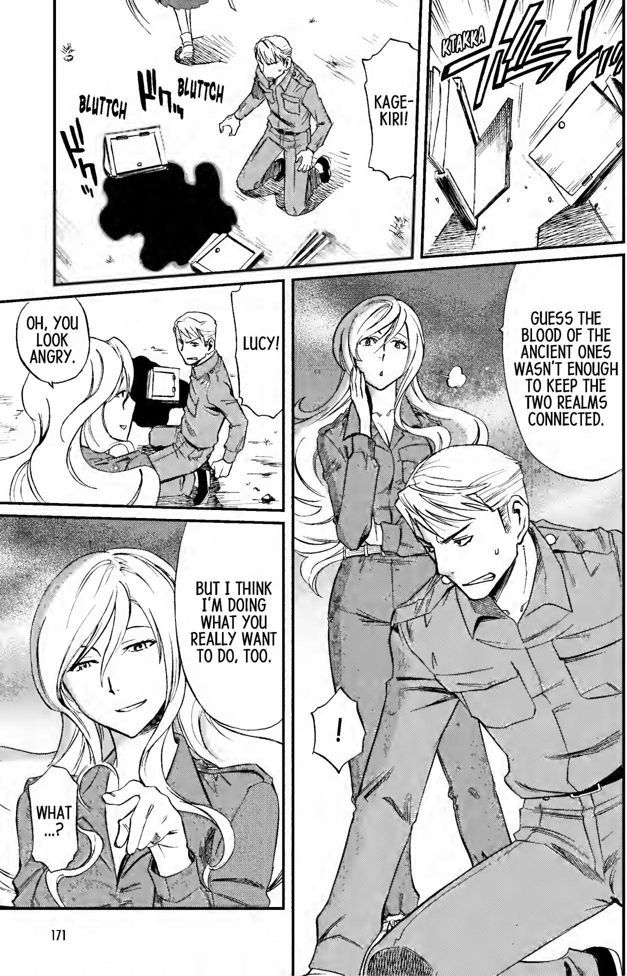

FWAAA
THE REAL...
...ME...
SHAAA

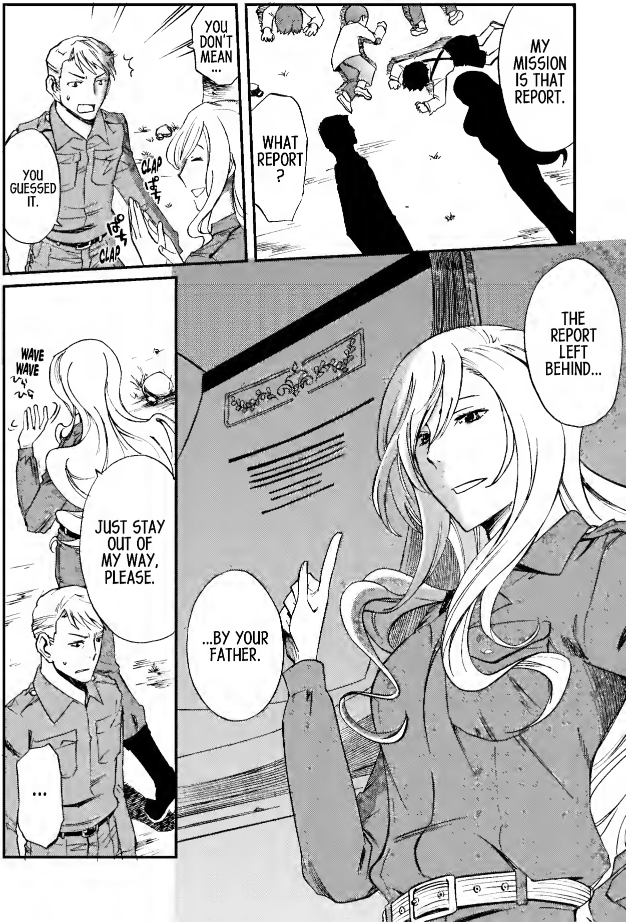

WHUD
OOF!
ARE WE... BACK?
WEL-COME BACK.
LUCY!
HI!

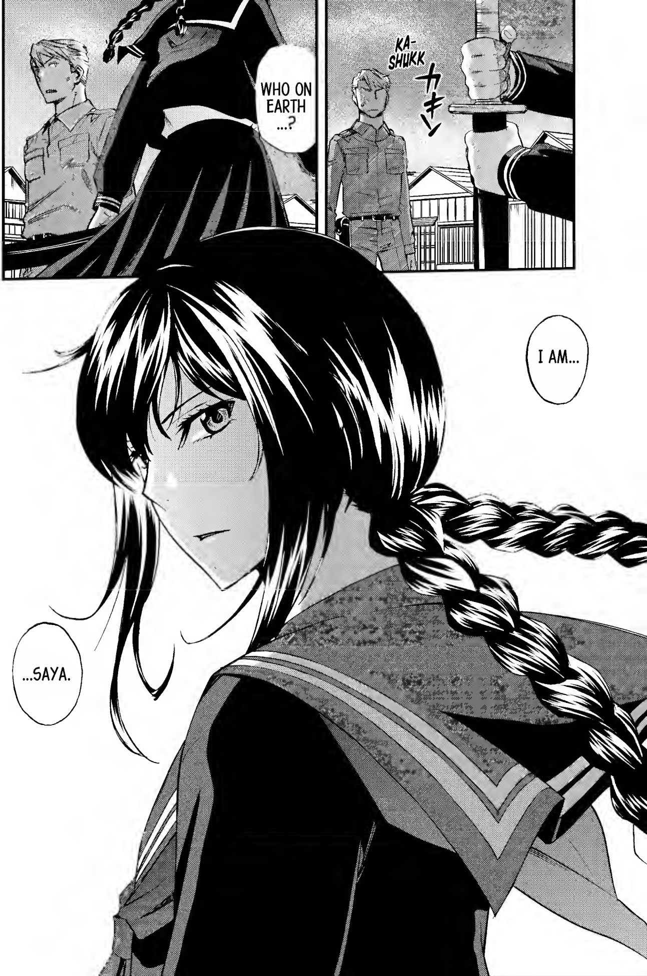

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
OKAY, LET'S CLOSE THE GATE NOW.
!
WHP
KCHAK
ぬらあ…
WHPP
ド

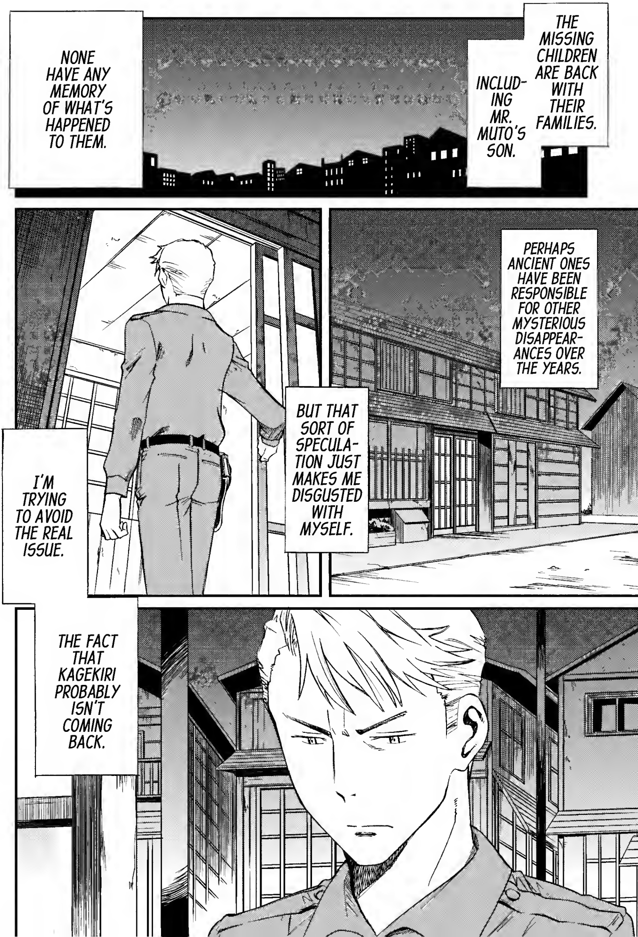

ガッ
GRAB
WAIT!! KAGEKIRI'S STILL IN THERE!
FWAAA
どわあああ
THEY'LL COME HERE...
DO IT.
VWSHH

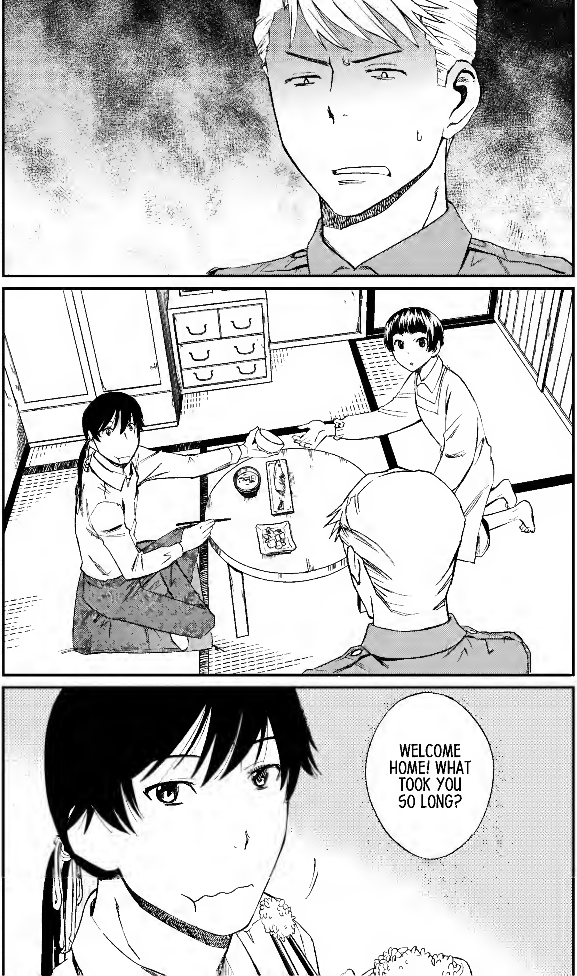

SLASH
ギャあああああ
GYAAAAARGH!

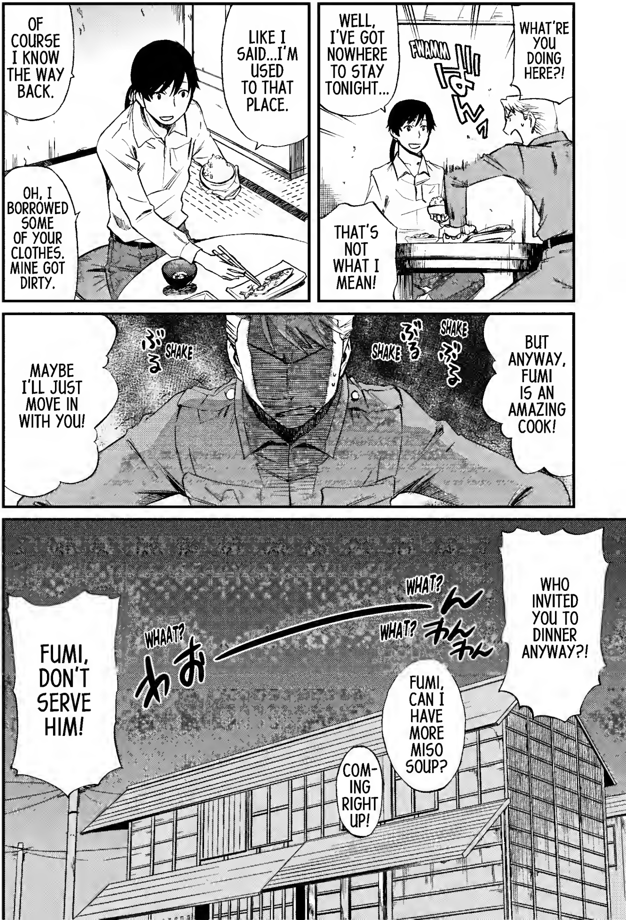

KTAKKA
KAGE-KIRI!
BLUTTCH
BLUTTCH
LUCY!
OH, YOU LOOK ANGRY.
GUESS THE BLOOD OF THE ANCIENT ONES WASN'T ENOUGH TO KEEP THE TWO REALMS CONNECTED.
!
BUT I THINK I'M DOING WHAT YOU REALLY WANT TO DO, TOO.
WHAT ...?


MY MISSION IS THAT REPORT.
WHAT REPORT?
YOU DON'T MEAN...
YOU GUESSED IT.
CLAP ぱち
ぱち CLAP
THE REPORT LEFT BEHIND...
...BY YOUR FATHER.
WAVE WAVE ひら ひら
JUST STAY OUT OF MY WAY, PLEASE.
...


KA-SHUKK
カキン
WHO ON EARTH ...?
I AM...
...SAYA.


THE MISSING CHILDREN ARE BACK WITH THEIR FAMILIES.
INCLUDING MR. MUTO'S SON.
NONE HAVE ANY MEMORY OF WHAT'S HAPPENED TO THEM.
PERHAPS ANCIENT ONES HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR OTHER MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCES OVER THE YEARS.
BUT THAT SORT OF SPECULATION JUST MAKES ME DISGUSTED WITH MYSELF.
I'M TRYING TO AVOID THE REAL ISSUE.
THE FACT THAT KAGEKIRI PROBABLY ISN'T COMING BACK.


WELCOME HOME! WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?


WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!
FWAMM
ばんっ
WELL, I'VE GOT NOWHERE TO STAY TONIGHT...
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!
LIKE I SAID...I'M USED TO THAT PLACE.
OF COURSE I KNOW THE WAY BACK.
OH, I BORROWED SOME OF YOUR CLOTHES. MINE GOT DIRTY.
BUT ANYWAY, FUMI IS AN AMAZING COOK!
SHAKE ぶる
SHAKE ぶる
SHAKE ぶる
MAYBE I'LL JUST MOVE IN WITH YOU!
WHO INVITED YOU TO DINNER ANYWAY?!
WHAT? ん
WHAT? わんわん
FUMI, CAN I HAVE MORE MISO SOUP?
COMING RIGHT UP!
WHAAT? わお
FUMI, DON'T SERVE HIM!

Hello! It's a pleasure to meet you!
My name is Ryo Haduki.

When the first *Blood* anime was released, I was an ordinary fan of the series, playing the video game and such. I never dreamed I'd get to draw a *Blood* manga one day. Well, you never know what life will bring you!

I don't want to spoil any surprises, so I won't write too much—but in the next volume the connection between *Demonic Moonlight* and the main *Blood-C* series will become clear.

I hope you'll read the next volume, too. I will do my very best!

—Ryo Haduki, 2011

Special thanks for their hard work . . .

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Special thanks to
Michael Gombos, Annie Gullion, and Carl Gustav Horn

BLOOD-C: DEMONIC MOONLIGHT VOLUME 1
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Edited by KADOKAWA SHOTEN

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Dark Horse Manga, a division of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222
DarkHorse.com

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First edition: May 2016
Digital ISBN 978-1-63008-494-3

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The prequel to the *Blood-C* saga! In occupied Japan in 1946, an American military investigator is sent to Yokohama Base to research a number of bizarre deaths. His encounters with a mysterious, sword-wielding stranger and a series of supernatural events lead him to believe that the murderer isn't human. Something more sinister lurks within the shadows! This two-volume series pays homage to the previous *Blood* series while telling a whole new story!

A collaboration between artist Ryo Haduki, powerhouse manga team CLAMP, and Production I.G—the studio behind *Blood: The Last Vampire* and the *Blood+* series—this expansion on the *Blood-C* anime series is not to be missed!